

Hafa Adai!

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ship to NMI. » PAGE 5

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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ELECTED OFFICIALS ATTEND RED MASS

'Reminder: You're God's servants'

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

In advance of today's inauguration, CNMI leaders attended Red Mass yesterday at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral with Fr. Ryan Jimenez reminding governor-elect Eloy S. Inos and company that they are God's servants first and foremost before being elected officials.

The apostolic administrator for the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa said the islands' political leaders don't have to look far for inspiration as they only need to follow the example of Saint

Thomas Moore.

"The patron saint of lawyers and politicians, Sir Thomas Moore, was a devoted hus-

See REMINDER
on Page 4

Zipline application for Marpi OK'd

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

The Saipan Zoning board unanimously approved Thursday a company's application to operate a zipline in Marpi.

After two hours of hearing the testimonies of supporters and opponents at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center,

the board approved the application with several conditions that need to be met.

Richard Colt, who is designing the project, spoke for Saipan Adventure Tours LLC regarding the project, along with their attorney, Robert Torres, and other members of the company.

Colt, who has been doing
See ZIPLINE on Page 4

Swift Air execs want separate trial on liability, damages issues

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Swift Air executives Jeffry Conry and Boris Van Lier are asking the federal court to separately try the issues of liability and damages in Saipan Air Inc.'s lawsuit against them.

Attorney Michael A. White, counsel for Conry and Van

Lier, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue an order separating the liability and damages phases of the trial scheduled for Feb. 2, 2015.

In the alternative, White asked the court that the determination of



White

the amount of punitive damages, if any, be bifurcated from the balance of the trial.

White said the issue of liability for the alleged fraud is separate and distinct from the amount of damages Saipan Air claims it is

entitled to.

White said Saipan Air contends defendants are liable for practically all—if not all—expenses it incurred from April 6 through June 21, 2012.

The lawyer said the amount of alleged compensatory damages depends on evidence that overlaps only to a limited

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4-year-old gets her wish: A trip to Disneyland

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Reeana Marie Mettao Camacho, a 4-year-old girl with Type 1 diabetes, is heading to Disneyland, California.

Make-A-Wish-Foundation has sponsored a trip for Reeana

DENNIS B. CHAN

Reeana Marie Mettao Camacho is shown here with her mom and dad, Kaylana and Norton, at T Galleria in Garapan.

and her mom and dad, Kaylana and Norton, after they filled out an application for her last November.

According to her mother, Reeana's family was contacted after a week they filed the application to hear that they have been approved.

"We are so happy that her wish will come true," said Kaylana Mettao. "Every morning she would wake up asking if

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INSIDE



ASIA

The tail of the AirAsia plane that crashed last month is lifted from the ocean.

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FOCUS

Pope Francis embarks on an Asian pilgrimage to visit Sri Lanka and the Philippines.

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LIFE & STYLE

The television series "Mad Men" is set to begin airing its final seven episodes in April.

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GOT A NEWS TIP?

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Local

Public warned of high surf, strong winds this week

Based on information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, a large north swell from a winter storm east of Japan will create hazardous surf along north and west facing reefs of the Marianas through today, Monday.

A high surf advisory is now in effect until 6pm today.

Surf will become hazardous 7 to 9 feet along north and west facing reefs of the Marianas this morning. Surf will remain near these heights most of the week. However, surf is gradually expected to shift toward the east facing reefs.

A small craft advisory remains in effect until 6pm Thursday.

Northeast winds will remain 20 to 25 knots through Monday night. Combined seas of 9 to 11 feet will build to between 10 and 13 feet around midweek. This will produce hazardous conditions for operators of small craft for the next several days.

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management is advising the general public and inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, to avoid boating in these conditions. If travel by boat is neces-

sary exercise caution especially near reef lines and when entering or leaving harbors and inlets.

Meanwhile, a strong pressure gradient between a weak circulation to the south and a strong subtropical ridge to the north will maintain stronger than usual winds through the next few days. Strong winds are expected for the Marianas the next few days. A wind advisory is now in effect until 6pm Thursday.

Winds will build to between 20 and 30 mph with gusts to 40 mph by Monday, mainly during the daylight hours. Northeast winds will increase then build even more on Monday. Winds are expected to last through at least Thursday.

Winds of around 30 mph can cause minor damage and blow away small loose items.

The public is advised to take precautionary actions. Winds this strong can make driving difficult, especially for high profile vehicles such as a truck with a shipping container on it. Use extra caution. Bring small loose items indoors. Take down canopies and awnings that are susceptible to wind damage. (Saipan Tribune)

Registration for NMC's spring 2015 semester this week

New students who wish to enroll in Northern Marianas College's spring 2015 semester can register for classes beginning today, Monday, Jan. 12, 2015. The registration period for new students will continue through Friday, Jan. 16, 2015. Ongoing students who were enrolled in the previous two semesters can already register online.

The instructions for registering for classes, in addition to other important information, can be found at the Northern Marianas College's website, www.marianas.edu. Students may register between 9am and 6pm during this week.

New students who have already taken their placement tests and attended student orientation are asked to meet with their academic advisors before registering for classes. New students are assigned an advisor once they submit their admissions application. Students who have not taken the placement test can contact



Northern Marianas College president Dr. Sharon Hart, standing left, gives an overview of the benefits of attending a community college during a recent information session held at the campus. Registration for NMC's spring 2015 semester begins this week (Jan. 12 through Jan. 16).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

237-6774 (or visit the Testing Center in Building I) to make an appointment.

Ongoing students can register online after meeting with their adviser and after clearing any holds that may be pending at the Finance Office, the NMC Library, or the Office of Admissions and Records. To find out if any holds exist, students

can visit the Admissions office on Building N or they can call 237-6768/9.

Taking online courses for the first time

Students who plan to register for an online or hybrid class for the first time are required to complete the "Discover NMC Online" Orientation

first. This two-week online orientation (2-3 hours per day, first day's session is face-to-face) provides students with information and the skills they need to successfully navigate online courses.

Please sign up for the session offered for Jan. 20 - 31, 2015, by visiting www.marianas.edu. (NMC)

Federal court asked to seal settlement deal with CPA

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Two companies that settled the Commonwealth Ports Authority's lawsuit against them over alleged design and engineering defects in a Saipan International Airport project have asked the federal court to seal their settlement deal.

Attorney Sean E. Frink, counsel for the Chicago-based Boeing Company and the Texas-based corporation Boeing Service Com-

pany, said their settlement deal should be sealed because it contains information protected from disclosure pursuant to third-party confidentiality restrictions.

Frink said both the CPA and Boeing are bound by the confidentiality provisions of the deal.

"The nature and substance of the information included in the settlement agreement is such that it cannot be revealed to the public without likely causing a material breach of the settlement agreement," he said.

Frink said the motion is being made because Boeing will be filing a motion to allow them to file a first amended complaint against Leo A Daly Company, or LAD.

Frink said that Boeing's first amended complaint alleges that LAD's design was ultimately the cause of the defects in the airport project.

"LAD is liable for the entire amount of the settlement above and beyond Boeing's pro rata share of liability," he asserted.

Last August, U.S. District

Court for the NMI designated Judge J. Michael Seabright dismissed CPA's lawsuit against Boeing after the parties reached a settlement.

Seabright said Boeing's lawsuit against LAD, which is also pending before the federal court, will continue.

CPA filed the lawsuit as a result of a series of problems related to an addition built to the Saipan International Airport. Boeing was hired to do the project. Boeing then subcontracted with LAD, which designed and managed the project.



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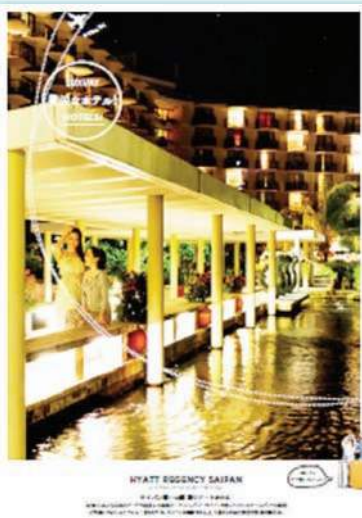


A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

Japan's DRESS Magazine Promotion

For the winter holiday season, the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) conducted a tie-in project with

Japan's **DRESS** magazine, a popular lifestyle magazine targeting women in their 30s. The magazine was launched in April 2013 and is published by **Gentosha**.



Two of the magazine's readers visited Saipan and reported their experiences with local nature, sports, gourmet and hotel stay. MVA Japan negotiated with the editor and successfully secured a 5-page

exposure in the magazine about the Marianas and a website tie-up themed, "Nearby Resort: Marianas."



the magazine's February issue and on their website for three months.

The MVA also negotiated with **Delta Air Lines** and obtained four complimentary tickets for the crew. **Hyatt Regency Saipan** also provided 4 complimentary rooms. The coverage will be featured in



NMHC to purge non-active applicants for housing units

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. is thinking of purging non-active applicants from their wait-list for housing units in Mihaville and Koblerville.

Bryan Bocago, NMHC acting manager for program and housing division, said that, as of December 2014, about 427 people on Saipan are on the wait-list for two-

bedroom units at Koblerville and Mihaville.

"We're going to implement these purging activities and go over and review applications. If the applicant is on island or off island but are not active, we will remove them from the Section 8 housing waiting list," Bocago said.

So far, a total of 501 are on the wait-list for "new construction" areas. Project sites include Koblerville and Mihaville on Saipan. Section 8 housing units

on Tinian and Rota have a total of seven on their wait-list.

As of December 2014, according to Bocago's report, 46 units in Mihaville are occupied while two are vacant. In Koblerville, there are 34 occupied units and no vacant ones. On Tinian all 20 units are occupied. On Rota, 10 units are occupied while six are vacant.

Board member Ignacio Perez agreed that they should purge some of those that are

on the wait-list but are no longer active.

"It is critical that we do these because of the available units that we have and the number is too big," Perez said.

NY lawyer's application to serve as co-counsel for Tinian Dynasty OK'd

The federal court has granted the request of Patrick J. Smith, a federal prosecutor who has been named a New York "super lawyer," to be admitted to practice in the District Court for the CNMI and serve as one of the counsels for Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino in a criminal case.

In an order on Thursday, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona said Smith is in good standing as an active member of the New York State Bar.

Manglona granted Smith's application for admission to represent Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment Ltd., owner of Tinian Dynasy, in the criminal case filed against the company by the U.S. government.

Hong Kong Entertainment hired Smith to assist their

counsel, Bruce Berline, in the criminal case.

Smith, who now resides in New York, is a partner with the law firm DLA Piper, a global law firm that reportedly has 4,200 lawyers in more than 30 countries throughout the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe and the Middle East.

Smith served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the U.S. District Courts for the NMI and Guam from 2002 to 2005.

The superseding indictment charged HKE with one count of conspiracy to cause a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction report, 155 counts of failure to file currency transaction reports, one count of failure to file a suspicious activity report, and one count of failure to maintain an effective anti-money laundering program.

The initial indictment had

charged HKE and then-VIP services manager George Que and then-casino manager Tim Blyth with only 10 charges. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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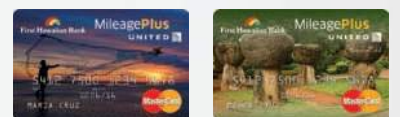
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STILL NO SPEAKER A DAY BEFORE INAUGURATION

'Impasse is absolutely ridiculous'

Representative-elect Edwin K. Propst is frustrated with how the 19th Legislature is set to start things off, as the incoming House of Representative has yet to choose a speaker less than a day to go before all 20 members are sworn into office.

"I hope we can resolve it. It would be great to resolve it by day's end but if we have to resolve it there, I hope it doesn't drag out. I hope it's done quickly and painlessly. I was hoping to do that beforehand but it's not going to happen. We just finished our [Red] Mass. Time is of the essence and we don't have that luxury anymore and we just have to come in tomorrow without knowing. We just have to put it on the floor and it's unfortunate," the first-time lawmaker told *Saipan Tribune* in a phone interview yesterday.

Propst initially complained about the seemingly protracted process of picking a speaker in a social media message Friday.

"I want to apologize to all the voters out there who elected 20 of us representatives. Why can't the 20 of us get together and decide who should be speaker?"

Why can't we get the 20 of us together and have those who are vying for the position of speaker debate each other?" he wrote in Facebook.

Propst reiterated his stand during a phone interview yesterday afternoon. "I've been saying it all along—we should put partisan politics aside because we were elected not be the majority but to be public servants to all of the people, to everyone. Whether people voted for us or not we have an obligation to the people we serve because we're public servants. I believe in majority rule when it comes to electing officers like the speaker. Regardless, I was elected to be the voice of the people and I will continue to do that."

In his social media posting, Propst challenged the three vying for speaker—18th House Speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), 18th House floor leader Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan), and Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair Ramon Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan)—to convene a meeting of all 20 incoming representatives to finally re-

solve the issue of who would be the next speaker.

"To the three vying for speaker: Enough! Get together and demand the 20 of us meet and let's decide this before Monday. While I believe in the democratic process and I do believe in patience, this is just plain silly. In the meantime, I continue to ask for nothing. I do not want to chair

a committee. What I want is to work with colleagues who are not going to jockey for power or prestige, but are going to work together for our entire Commonwealth. We owe it to our people to settle this already. This impasse is absolutely ridiculous." *Saipan Tribune* earlier reported that Tebuteb can expect to garner the support of nine independents,

among them Reps. Edmund Vilagomez, Ralph N. Yumul, Anthony T. Benavente, Roman Benavente, Larry Deleon Guerrero, and incoming representatives, Vinson Sablan, Blas Jonathan "B.J." Attao, and Propst.

Deleon Guerrero, meanwhile, is said to be counting on the votes of Rep. Anthony P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and freshmen lawmakers

Edwin Aldan of Tinian and Francis Taimanao of Saipan.

Demapan can count on the seven NMI Republican Party lawmakers elected to the 19th House: Felicidad Ogumoro, John Paul P. Sablan, George Camacho, and newcomers Angel Demapan, Joseph "Lee-pan" T. Guerrero, and Glenn L. Maratita. *(Mark Rabago)*

REMINDER

From Page 1

band, a loving father, a generous friend, a gifted writer, a renowned lawyer, and an astute judge. He's also remembered as a devoted member of the court of King Henry VIII in which he held a number of important posts, most notably Lord Chancellor, a position roughly equivalent in our political system to the White House chief of staff, secretary of state, or chief justice of the Supreme Court," said Fr. Ryan.

He said that one of Moore's last words before facing execution were: "I'm the King's good servant but God's first."

"In the simple phrase 'I'm the King's good servant but God's first, Saint Thomas summarizes the call of Christian discipleship and the perspective we must all bring in our daily work, in every work that we do—to be God's servant first. All of us gathered in this cathedral are first and foremost God's servants. To our elected officials in the Commonwealth, you are God's servants first and it's fitting that you begin your service to the community with this Mass of the Holy Spirit in the feast of the baptism of the Lord."

Fr. Jimenez also enjoined leaders of the Commonwealth to be priest, prophet, and king. In adopting priestly traits, he encouraged elected leaders to extend a "ministry of service to the

community, even to those who didn't vote for you and that's the meaning of priesthood. As priests who offer sacrifices to God, you are supposed to offer sacrifices for all."

He also asked Inos and company to forget the bitterness of the last election.

"Now is also the time to let go of what happened during the elections. You're chosen to serve everyone—all the members of this community. This means letting go of past rivalries, forgiving old injuries and insults, and embracing former enemies. After all, you were not elected to represent only your supporters; you must now represent everyone, including those who didn't support you and those who didn't vote for you. You cannot do that if you hold on to old grudges and grievances. After all, you cannot shake hands with a clenched fist but you can love others only with an open hand and an open heart."

On being a prophet, Fr. Jimenez told elected officials they should not be prophets in the sense of being a fortune-teller.

"Being a prophet means one that speaks the word of God. Hear the word of God through the words of the prophets. Prophets are bearers of good news and allow the word of God to be their guide. This would influence you to make better laws as well as serve and help others."

He, meanwhile, said being

a king is the exact opposite of what the world thinks the position means.

"When you're king you're the *magas*, you're the boss. I'm the leader, I'm the boss. But being king in this baptismal identity means you're the servant of all. The best model of a king is our Lord Jesus Christ. As servant leaders, we should think less of ourselves and more for others."

He added that praying, studying, and action are identities of being a king through God's eyes.

"Yes we're leaders but first and foremost we're God's servants."

Earlier in his homily, Fr. Jimenez said Red Mass has its origins in 13th century England under King Edward I.

"Officers of the court and other government officials gather for prayer to ask for blessing and guidance in the administration of justice. This liturgy is called Red Mass because it's a celebration of Holy Mass to call on the Holy Spirit and the liturgical color is red as evidenced by the liturgical vestments."

He added that it is through the Holy Spirit that people are given the gifts of wisdom and understanding, right judgment and courage, and knowledge and reverence.

"This Red Mass is also a new beginning for all of us as a community. I'd like to believe that right here, right now in this act of praying together we will begin a new chapter in our Commonwealth. And as we begin

this new chapter in our community we remind ourselves of our identity having received this sacrament of baptism."

Inauguration Monday

All roads lead to Capital Hill today as Inos, lieutenant governor-elect Ralph DLG Torres, members of the Senate and House of Representatives, the mayors of Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands and their respective municipal councils will have their inauguration.

The Saipan Mayor's Office will hold a separate swearing in ceremony for mayor-elect David Apatang and the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council in Oleai.

Dignitaries expected to attend the governor's and lieutenant governor's inauguration include Palau President Tommy Remengesau Jr., Guam Gov. Edward Calvo, Guam Speaker Judith Wan Pat, Vice Speaker Benjamin J. Cruz, among others.

The oath of office for Inos will be administered by CNMI Supreme Court Associate Justice Perry B. Inos, while Torres' will be administered by CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro Castro.

Entertainment would be provided by Felix Fitial and Gus Kaipat with Rep. Angel Demapan serving as master of ceremonies in his last act as Inos' public information officer and press secretary.

ZIPLINE

From Page 1

zipline projects for 25 years, said he knows what he's doing because of his years of experience building zipline projects in the United States, Ukraine, Latvia, and the Philippines (an ongoing project he is working on).

Colt told the board that the ziplines would be operated by a state-of-the-art system and that safety and environmental concerns are also looked at.

Colt described the ziplines as designed to be relatively quiet, high tech, and with built-in safety features.

Saipan Adventure Tours LLC submitted a site development plan to Zoning consisting of the main tower and ziplines branching out in three different areas.

The launching point of the zipline will be at Suicide Cliff and will launch to three different towers located near Banzai Cliff, Wing Beach, and Kan Pacific.

Concerns

Although safety, environment, and culture was highlighted at the presentation, several concerns were raised.

WISH

From Page 1

we are going to Disneyland already."

"We are going to enjoy her trip to Disneyland," Norton Camacho said. Reena's favorite Disney show is *Frozen*.

Camacho thanked Make-A-Wish for making his daugh-

ter's wish come true.

Reeana celebrated her birthday on Thursday. Last Friday, Make-A-Wish officials and Reanna's family visited T Galleria where the company was thanked for sponsoring the trip.

They are one of the major sponsors for Make-A-Wish on island. They successfully raised about \$2,500 on both Saipan and Guam for Reena's wish to be granted.

One concern from a CNMI veteran, Tony Cabrera, was that there is a Veteran's Memorial in the area. If there was a funeral or a special holiday for veterans, would it bother them?

Torres told Cabrera that they would limit and stop the activities if any special occasion would be held in the area.

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio raised concerns about the ziplines running toward Banzai Cliff, it being a sacred area and the site of many Japanese ceremonies. He is also concerned about the visibility of the ziplines and the need for a regulatory agency to ensure its maintenance.

Kaitlin Mattos' concern was the project's impact on cyclists and the existing pathways for trail walking. Torres noted that the project won't disturb existing pathways.

After several concerns were raised, majority of those present at the public hearing supported the project, saying that Saipan needs something new.

SWIFT

From Page 1

extent with any evidence of liability.

He said that based on its itemized statement of damages, Saipan Air intends to seek as part of its damages "miscellaneous itemized expenses incurred between April 6, 2012, and June 21, 2012," totaling \$741,370.78.

White said those miscellaneous expenses include hundreds of separate items, and defendants had direct involvement with few, if any, of those expenses.

White said going through each of the miscellaneous expenses would consume hours of the court's, jury's, and parties' time.

"If the issues are not bifurcated, the parties will be required to engage in the exercise of addressing each item of expenses even if the jury ultimately determines that defendants are not liable to Saipan Air for fraud, the lone remaining claim," he said.

White said Conry and Van Lier would be severely preju-

diced if Saipan Air is permitted to inform the jury that it seeks \$10 million in punitive damages from the two prior to the determination of liability for any compensatory damages, much less punitive damages.

He said providing the jurors with that information, which has no relevance to liability, would serve no purpose other than to paint Conry and Van Lier as bad actors based on the sheer amount of damages sought by Saipan Air.

White said the trial could also be expedited if Saipan Air is prohibited from presenting evidence going only toward the amount of punitive damages during the liability phase of the trial.

He said Saipan Air did not identify the basis for its original punitive damages request of \$50 million in response to defendants' first set of interrogatories.

However, White said, Adam Ferguson, Saipan Air's witness, testified relative to how Saipan Air determined the amount of its original punitive damages claim.

White said that Conry and Van

Lier vehemently dispute that it is proper for Saipan Air to seek punitive damages for the economic injury to the island and people of Saipan as a whole.

White said although Saipan Air has reduced its punitive damages claim by \$40 million, it presumably applied a similar approach to determining the amount of its current punitive damages claim.

"Any evidence Saipan Air intends to present regarding the impact on the tourist industry in Saipan or on the markets in Japan and China, including any injury to any individual or entity other than Saipan Air, would have absolutely no relevance to the issues of liability or compensatory damages in this case," he said.

White said it would be improper to address the issues of liability and the amount of punitive damages, if any, in a single trial.

White and attorney Nathan Duggins are representing Conry and Van Lier. Attorney Steven Pixley is counsel for Saipan Air Inc.

Last month, Manglona ruled

that Saipan Air's fraud claim against Conry and Van Lier shall proceed, but not against Swift Air's Donald A. Stukes.

Manglona also granted summary judgment in favor of Conry, Van Lier, and Stukes in Saipan Air's claims for violations of Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act and for unjust enrichment. This means that Saipan Air's RICO and unjust enrichment claims in the lawsuit are dismissed.

The trial will be against Conry and Van Lier relating to the fraud claims.

Conry and Van Lier are currently employed by Arizona-based Swift Air, which emerged from bankruptcy in 2013.

Saipan Air filed the racketeering lawsuit against Conry, Van Lier, and Stukes in July 2012.

Swift Air filed for bankruptcy protection in Arizona shortly after notifying Saipan Air that it would not deliver two 757 aircraft and one 737 aircraft for Saipan Air's program. Saipan Air was unable to sue Swift Air directly because of the bankruptcy filing.

Kilili says it's retailers' right not to ship to NMI if they don't want to

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said his office always contacts companies that do business online but don't include the CNMI in their drop-down menus for deliveries.

Recently, CNMI residents complained through social media about certain online retailers that don't deliver their products to the Commonwealth.

Upon reading the comments, Sablan explained to Internet-savvy island residents that his office actually reaches out to these online retailers and explain to them that the Commonwealth is part of the U.S.



Sablan

"When any constituent reports that an online retailer does not list the Northern Mariana Islands and asks the congressional office for assistance, we contact the retailer. Of course, congressional ethics rules prevent us from pressuring any private business to take any action. But in some cases retailers have been unaware that the Marianas are part of the United States and have changed their dropdown menus, when we provide this information," he said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

The four-term CNMI nonvoting delegate to Congress also said his office has many times

had to explain to online retailers that the CNMI is being serviced by the U.S. Postal Service.

"We have also had some successes in getting information about U.S. Postal Service operations in the Northern Marianas. Sometimes retailers have been misinformed about whether USPS provides service and we have been able to help there."

Sablan also wants to make it clear that the U.S. government does not have the authority to force any private business to do business anywhere the business chooses not to do business.

"I have explored this question with the legal counsel in the [U.S.] House of Representatives because I know that my constituents are sometimes frustrated by businesses that do not do business in the Northern Marianas. And the counsel I have received is that there is no constitutional authority for Congress to take action," he said.

Some of the online retailers that do ship to the Commonwealth are WalMart, Old Navy, Toys R Us, Macy's, Children's Place, Zappos, 6pm, and Aeropostale, among others. Some retailers on eBay and Amazon also ship to the islands. *(Mark Rabago)*

Congratulations



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Lt. Governor-Elect
Ralph DLG. Torres



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JAYSON CAMACHO
J Boog, second from left, is joined by his crew members during a press conference held a day before the concert at the Fiesta Resort and Spa.

Hundreds crowd J Boog concert over weekend

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hundreds of fans streamed to the Fiesta Resort and Spa's beachside over the weekend to watch one of Micronesia's well-known reggae singer, J Boog, who held his first ever concert on the island.

Despite the persistent rain that drenched hundreds during the concert, nothing could stop the crowd from surging toward the stage after J Boog came out a quarter to 10pm.

Coming on stage after local performers entertained the crowd, J Boog's crew members hyped the crowd up. As "J Boogs" name was being chanted, the man himself got on stage and started his live performances.

Fans enjoyed singing along with J Boog and his interaction with the crowd was one of the highlights of the night.

The event started at 5:30pm and ended around 10pm. An after-party was later held at GIG.

Concert coordinator Nola Hix thanked everyone for coming and the sponsors for attending.

Jerry "J Boog" Afemata said the way he makes his music is

all "feel good music."

"It actually comes from the heart and we incorporate reggae music. One of the first jams we have been listening to and it is pretty much everywhere even from the islands back home and in California. It worked well with what we went through at the time and it goes well with everybody," J Boog said.

J Boog counts iconic reggae singer Bob Marley, Dennis Brown, and other reggae musicians and bands among his inspirations.

"I don't think there is any other type of genre that I can explain myself other than reggae," J Boog said.

J Boog has already performed twice in Guam but this is his first time to visit Saipan.

"It is kind of cool being here on Saipan because we get to see other people from afar," J Boog said.

The concert was made possible by Steven Brownstein, in collaboration with Twinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, Alter City Group, Megastars Ent., Bank of Guam, Priority Care, KZMI FM, Happy Idea Co., Sunleader, and Best Sunshine.

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Lt. Governor-Elect Ralph DLG. Torres**
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Woman admits to using 'ice,' fails to appear at several drug testing

A woman who is charged with lying to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and is on pre-trial release allegedly used methamphetamine or "ice" and failed to appear at several scheduled random drug testing.

As this developed, attorney Michael N. Evangelista, court-appointed counsel for Evengelyn E.C. Jones, requested the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday to allow him to withdraw as attorney for Jones.

Evangelista told the court last week that recent events have made it clear he can no longer serve as counsel for Jones, and that professional consideration require him to withdraw. He did not specify whether he was referring to Jones' alleged "ice" use and failure to report for drug testing.

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola stated in his declaration filed Thursday that Jones was arrested on an indictment charging her with one count of visa fraud and was released last Nov. 24 on a \$5,000 unsecured bond.

Arriola said during her release, Jones admitted to using "ice" on Nov. 21 and 28, 2014.

Arriola said to assist with her addiction, Jones requested that her pre-trial release conditions be modified to include substance abuse treatment.

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted Jones' request last Dec. 15.

Arriola said since the defendant's release on Nov. 24, she failed to appear for random drug testing on Dec. 16, 18, 20, 28, and 30, 2014.

Arriola said that, on Dec. 16 and 18, Jones informed the treatment vendor that she was unable to report to their office because she was sick.

Arriola said Jones, however, failed to contact them on Dec. 20, 28, 30, and 31 to provide a reason for her absence.

The probation officer said that last Jan. 5, the treatment vendor notified him that Jones failed to appear for random drug testing earlier that day.

According to the indictment, on Sept. 16, 2010, Jones stated in a Form I-130 that an individual known as K.Y.O. was her "husband/wife"—a representation she knew was false in that she had divorced K.Y.O. in 2006.

Form I-130 refers to a U.S. citizen's petition for an alien relative. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS**Friends of the Arts presents *I'm not Rappaport***

This next weekend, Jan. 16, 17, and 18, the Friends of the Arts will be presenting the second program of its 2015 season, *I'm not Rappaport*, directed by Harold Easton and produced by Susan Fishman-Tudor. The performances on Jan. 16 and 17 will start at 7pm. The Sunday, Jan. 18, program will be a matinee beginning at 3pm. All three shows will be performed at the Marianas High School's Dolphin Theatre.

Tickets will be sold at the door. The entrance fee will be \$5 for all student Thespian members, \$8 for students up

through college, \$12 for FOA members and \$15 for non-FOA members. Season tickets (for this and the next two show) are still available at \$30 for FOA members by contacting me at flgibson@yahoo.com or by calling 287-7476. (PR)

Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Jan. 13 from 5am to noon and 2pm to 5:30pm. The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the dates and times

indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (PR)

Free workshop on applying for ANA grant

Applying for an Administration for Native Americans grant this year? Come to a free two-day workshop on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 15 and 16, at the NMC campuses. On Saipan, the workshop will be conducted in Room N-5, and on Rota and Tinian, it will be conducted at the VTC conference room. The workshop will start at 8:30am and will end at 4:30pm, with lunch break in between. In this training session,

participants will learn how to build a strong grant application, go over ANA's grant scoring criteria, and review submission requirements. You may register online at www.anapacificbasin.org, or come as a walk-in on Jan. 15. For more information, you may call 484-4441. (PR)

PTSA meeting at Oleai school

The PTSA officers of the Oleai Elementary School would like to inform parents and guardians of OES students that we will be having our PTSA meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2014, starting at 6pm in the school cafeteria. We encourage our parents and guardians to attend this important meeting. (PR)

Chamber Installation**Dinner on Jan. 24**

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have no general membership meeting this month. Instead it will celebrate with its Installation Dinner on Jan. 24 at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. The Chamber will welcome its newest board members and will announce its 2014 Business Person of the Year. A silent auction will offer fabulous prizes! Tickets are \$50/person, and tables of eight persons are available. (SCC)

Workforce training courses offered at NMC Rota

Northern Marianas College is offering Workforce Training Courses on Rota beginning Monday, Jan. 12, 2015,

through Friday, Jan. 16, 2015.

The courses include Introduction to Computers; Keyboarding; Fundamentals of the Internet and Email Usage; Introduction to Word Processing Applications; Introduction to Spreadsheet Applications; Creating Effective Digital Presentations; Workforce Ready: Personal and Professional Skills; Customer Service; Workplace Culture and Ethics; Communication in the Workplace; Time and Stress Management; and Getting the Job: Job Search/Resume Writing/Job Interviewing Techniques.

To register for these classes, call the NMC Rota Campus at 532-9513, NMC Saipan 237-6764, or email barnaby.lizama@marianas.edu or wdp@marianas.edu. (NMC)

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CCA, Joeten launch ‘Scratch, Win, and Fight Cancer’ fundraiser

The Commonwealth Cancer Association, in partnership with Joeten Markets, is launching the first ever “Scratch, Win, and Fight Cancer” fundraiser beginning today, Monday, Jan. 12, 2015. The fundraising promotion will run for a 90-day period ending April 12, 2015. Tickets are being sold at \$1 each at any of the four Joeten markets. Play to win cash prizes. All proceeds from the sales of these tickets will ben-

efit the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

Joeten is a proud partner of CCA and this is just one of the things we can do to help the non-profit organization achieve its mission.

Joeten’s untiring support to raise funds for the CCA speaks of its outstanding partnership and commitment to the CCA along the way, said CCA president Lauri Ogumoro.

In 2003, the CCA began as

an alliance of volunteers and became formally chartered and incorporated in 2008. In 2009, CCA achieved a tax-exempt under 501 (c)(3), status and since then has been providing direct client financial assistance for qualifying assistance such as nutritional supplements and other personal needs, as well as offers certain types of medical equipment e.g. hospital beds, wheelchairs, oxygen concen-

trator, etc. as prescribed by a locally licensed physicians in the CNMI to those individuals who are receiving treatment for cancer. Also, CCA facilitates monthly cancer survivors support group meetings, and CCA engages in various awareness and outreach activities and has produced various educational publications such as brochures, fliers and DVD’s for our diverse community.

CCA organizes community

events such as cervical cancer, oral cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, and lung cancer awareness, to mention a few. The CCA also engages in programs such as early screening and detection, and patient navigation.

With your \$1 purchase, you are helping those families, friends and community members who have been touched by cancer. Please join the fight, please join Joeten En-

terprises and CCA in raising funds for a much needed assistance to our community.

You can contact CCA at telephone 682-0050, by email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or log on to www.ccamarianas.org website for more information about CCA and its programs. Or you can contact the Joeten at telephone 234-6445 for more information about the “Scratch, Win and Fight Cancer” campaign. (CCA)

Firm inks deal with Pacific nations to supply tuna under MSC standards

SAN DIEGO—South Pacific Tuna Corp. has signed a memorandum of understanding with PNAO/Pacific, the marketing arm of the eight Pacific Island Nations known as the Parties to the Nauru Agreement, to supply tuna that meets Marine Stewardship Council standards.

MSC standards are considered the most stringent of the current managed sustainability programs. This action underscores South Pacific Tuna Corp.’s commitment to maintaining the highest sustainability standards while harvesting tuna from PNA island waters. The company oversees management and operations of 14 U.S. flagged tuna vessels owned by “The Global Fleets,” Ocean Global Fisheries LLC, Sea Global Fisheries LLC and Pacific Global LLC.

“The Global Fleets have long embraced sustainable fishing practices in action, rather than just theory,” said South Pacific Tuna Corp. executive director and Global Fleets partner J. Douglas Hines.

“This MOU makes us the first among the U.S. Distant Water Tuna Fleet to make a public commitment to sustainable fishing practices as certified by the Marine Stewardship Council—including effective management and minimal environmental impact. It is not only a commitment to the PNA countries, but to their customers and consumers throughout the world. This is truly a first step in creating an *Ocean to Table* project.”

Hines stressed that the MOU is not a product of non-governmental agency action, but a sin-

cere commitment to provide the highest conservation standards in tuna supplied through the PNA nations supply chain.

“The U.S. Fleet is considered a global leader in promoting environmental standards with strict adherence to regulations,” Hines said. “Hopefully, more members of the of Distant Water Tuna Fleet will adopt similar sustainability practices and together work toward a sustainable fish stock and diverse ecosystem.”

Hines, along with other Industry colleagues, has been a strong proponent of working with governments of regional and industrial Distant Water Fishing Nations to effect change through science-based best

practices and equal compliance.

Maurice Brownjohn, commercial manager of PNA fisheries said, “As world leaders in tuna conservation and management, this is a great development. We look forward to working closely with The Global Fleets in promoting tuna that is sustainability harvested in our waters to ensure that we will have continued supply for future generations.”

The project to bring The Global Fleets under Pacific has been a year in the making. The Fleets will work with the offices of PNA and Pacific to develop the criteria for certification and to collaborate with their global partners to ensure traceability and reporting.

» ‘PNA’ waters supply 50 percent of world’s skipjack tuna

South Pacific Tuna Corp. also supports social and economic development of the PNA nations by highlighting the origin of the PNA MSC certified tuna. All eligible raw material caught by South Pacific Tuna vessels will display the Pacific logo when it reaches the consumer, with a link to the region. The use of this logo represents the company’s commitment toward the PNA people and appreciation of the opportunity to manage and preserve their ocean ecosystem for years to come.

About South Pacific Tuna Corp.

South Pacific Tuna Corp. is a United States-based tuna vessel management company headquartered in San Diego, California. Its 14 U.S. flagged tuna vessels fish in the Western Pacific under the rules and regulations outlined by

the South Pacific Tuna Treaty. Learn more about the company’s commitment to safety and environmental sustainability at www.sopactuna.com.

About Pacific

Pacific c.v. is a global marketing company of the Parties of the Nauru Agreement countries. It was established in 2011 to promote and actively trade PNA’s Marine Stewardship Council-certified, sustainably harvested skipjack tuna to consumers around the world. The eight PNA countries include: Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu. Together, they control the world’s largest sustainable tuna purse seine fishery, supplying 50 percent of the world’s skipjack tuna. More at <http://www.pacific.com>. (PR)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-15-008

8” ACP WATERLINE ABANDONMENT FOR SAN VICENTE SERVICE AREA EXTENSION PROJECT, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the 8” ACP Waterline Abandonment for San Vicente Service Area Extension Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This work consists of disconnecting customer service lateral connections off the 8” ACP and reconnecting these customers on to the proper tank service area distribution main. Work will also consist of installing new gate valve assemblies and the abandonment of the 8” ACP waterline. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is 190 calendar days from date of award of the contract.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a site visit is scheduled on **December 31, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan.

One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “8” ACP Waterline Abandonment for San Vicente Service Area Extension Project, Saipan” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 20, 2015**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission’s (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 2, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., Purchasing Officer, Procurement & Supply Division via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, Engineer, Water & Wastewater Division via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-15-009

A-16 LIFT STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the rehabilitation and upgrade of A-16 Sewer Lift Station in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, in general of the rehabilitation and upgrade of A-16 Sewer Lift Station. The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work includes rehabilitation of the wet well, remove existing pumps and appurtenances and install new pumps, guide rails, control panel, valves, replacement of pipes and fittings, temporary wastewater bypass system, installation of new fence and gate, and other related work. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **270 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The Project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, wire transfer or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **January 13, 2015 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-15-009, A-16 Lift Station Rehabilitation Project”, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 29, 2015**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bid in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission’s (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 15, 2015** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Birhen Martinez, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email address birhen.martinez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Reyes retirement tour continues in Saipan delegation

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Senate floor leader Pete P. Reyes' (Ind-Saipan) retirement tour continued in the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation on Thursday, with the 68-year-old this time reminding his colleagues and incoming lawmakers to not forget their loved ones and families.

"I ask you members to please divide your time. Serve the public to the best of your ability but also take time to pay a little more attention to your family. They're children now but before you know it they're already teenagers," said Reyes, who is retiring after 23 years in the House of Representatives and Senate.

"We'll miss the time when we should cherish watching our children grow. It's difficult for those with family and you need to once in a while show appreciation to your wife," he added.

Reyes said he laments the times he was so absorbed with his work in the Legislature that his children sometimes forgot they had a father.

He shared a moment a few years ago that after months of coming to work early and coming home late and not even seeing a glimpse of his children, his daughter had begun calling him Uncle Pete because she rarely saw him anymore.

Aside from the value of family, Reyes also asked incoming members of the 19th Legislature not to forget pri-

oritizing education, which he believes is the lifeblood and future of the islands.

"Never forget to assist and support the education of our children. Invest in our children," he said.

The former U.S. Army veteran has donated over half a million of his salary as a legislator to the CNMI Scholarship Office. To the estimates of Reyes' wife, Glenna, the senator has donated some \$550,000 to the scholarship agency since 2000.

Aside from his valedictory speech in SNILD *sine die*, people in the gallery also heard other members of the delegation shower Reyes with praises while a box of napkins was jokingly passed around. Reyes shed some tears during his *sine die* speech in the Senate just days before.

Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan) said the retiring lawmaker is one of a kind and there probably wouldn't be anyone like him in the Legislature.

"To put together a clear picture of what the good senator is, I remember the first day here at the Legislature. As I walked around the building I noticed something different about this one office. I remember seeing a sign that was different from all others—both at the House and the Senate. Over this one office the sign read: 'Sen. Pete Reyes, Office of the People.' I believe the simple sign went a long way in defining his record as a public servant... Hope you find enough things to do in your retirement. If

you need someone to kill time with, I'm here," he said.

House Speaker Joseph P. DeLeon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan)

said Reyes is one of the most respected members of the Legislature and incoming lawmakers would sadly be missing that sagely figure.

"One of the first things you learn when you come into this body—we call it 'How To Congress 101'—is to know who to approach when you need something done."

DeLeon Guerrero said SNILD chair Ramon Tebuteb and Reyes, who is also the floor leader of the delegation,

are the two people you need to approach when you need bills to be passed or appropriations to be made.

"When you have their support you can almost guarantee safe passage."

The speaker echoed Sablan when he said Reyes is indeed unique.

"This gentleman has been my mentor as well since I came in. I think the passion he has exhibited over the years hasn't diminished. That is not easy. For some who have been here many, many years the light tends to flicker or likely diminish but not in the case of my good friend, Sen. Reyes.



Reyes

He has always had that passion to serve the public and I think this Commonwealth will be losing a great leader."

Sablan and DeLeon Guerrero are among two of Reyes' closest friends in the Legislature.

Rep. Anthony Benavente (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) also saluted Reyes for his long service to the CNMI.

"He's a good mentor and I've admired him since Day 1. When I grown up I want to be like you!" said Benavente.

Yumul described Reyes as one of the pillars of the Legislature. "I'm still wet behind the ears and would continue to like to learn from veteran lawmakers like Reyes."

Vice Speaker Francisco

Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan) said when he first came in during the 15th Legislature he had the pleasure of meeting Reyes, who is his cousin.

He said he learned a lot from Reyes and worked on many legislations with the senator, one of which is the creation of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission.

Rep. Ramon Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) said the retiring senator was instrumental when he first ran for the House of Representatives. Tebuteb said Reyes was one of his advisers when he threw his hat in the political arena in 2001. He also remembered that Reyes was his SNILD chairman when he came in and he was the vice chairman.

CDA launches @wearecnmi Instagram account

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority launched on Monday a "rotation curation account"—@wearecnmi—on the photo and video-sharing platform Instagram. This, according to CDA's Carline Sablan, will allow a new host to represent the community by taking turns each week posting photos that "feature how we live, work and play in the CNMI."

The inaugural host of @wearecnmi account is Shirley Sablan, executive vice president and general manager of Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc. She resides in Saipan.

A post on the account has a video of Sablan's son playing in the waters of one of the Saipan's beaches. Posts also feature the smiling faces of the island's key businesses in the CNMI, shots of nature, and CNMI historic memorials.

Carline Sablan said that CDA's objectives with the project are to document through photos and videos what life and life is in the CNMI. It is "to encourage involvement, celebrate diversity, build community

pride, increase reach and visibility of the CNMI as a place to say, visit and to businesses."

"The hope is that hosts will open up and share different aspects of life in the CNMI for followers from our community and across the world to see," she said.

Three days into the project, the account already has accumulated 280-plus followers.

"As CDA's first host," Shirley Sablan said. "I had a huge task to increase @wearecnmi's followership, since I was pretty much starting from ground zero. Thus far, I love every minute of it. I encourage everyone eligible to sign up as hosts to provide different perspectives of our beautiful islands."

CDA hopes to interest a diverse range of residents to serve as hosts.

Eligibility requirements for hosts are, one, must be a CNMI resident; two, must have an existing Instagram account and be familiar with application; and three, must agree to the terms of use for the account.

To register or get more information, contact Carline Sablan at CDA AT 234-6245, ext 314 or c.sablan@developcnmi.com.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Murders at Charlie Hebdo were attacks on free speech and freedom everywhere

Freedom of expression does not come free. Neither does freedom of the press.

A brutal reminder of those facts arrived Wednesday when masked cowards carrying automatic weapons burst into the offices of Charlie Hebdo, a satirical newspaper in Paris, ultimately killing 10 staff members and two police officers.

The rampage was condemned by political leaders worldwide. They realize an assault of this kind is an attack against freedoms cherished by many people around the globe.

And notably, cartoonists and journalists of many nationalities quickly offered powerful drawings and opinion articles to stand up for the power of the pen.

The terrorism attack was immediately linked to the paper's longtime practice of using cartoons to mock Islam, partly because of some defiant chants the gunmen uttered before fleeing. But the murders of innocent people cannot be excused for any reason. Charlie Hebdo has satirized many other religions as well as politicians and celebrities for decades, all part of an effort to afflict those with power.

The atrocities in Paris join other recent attempts to muzzle free expression and a free press.

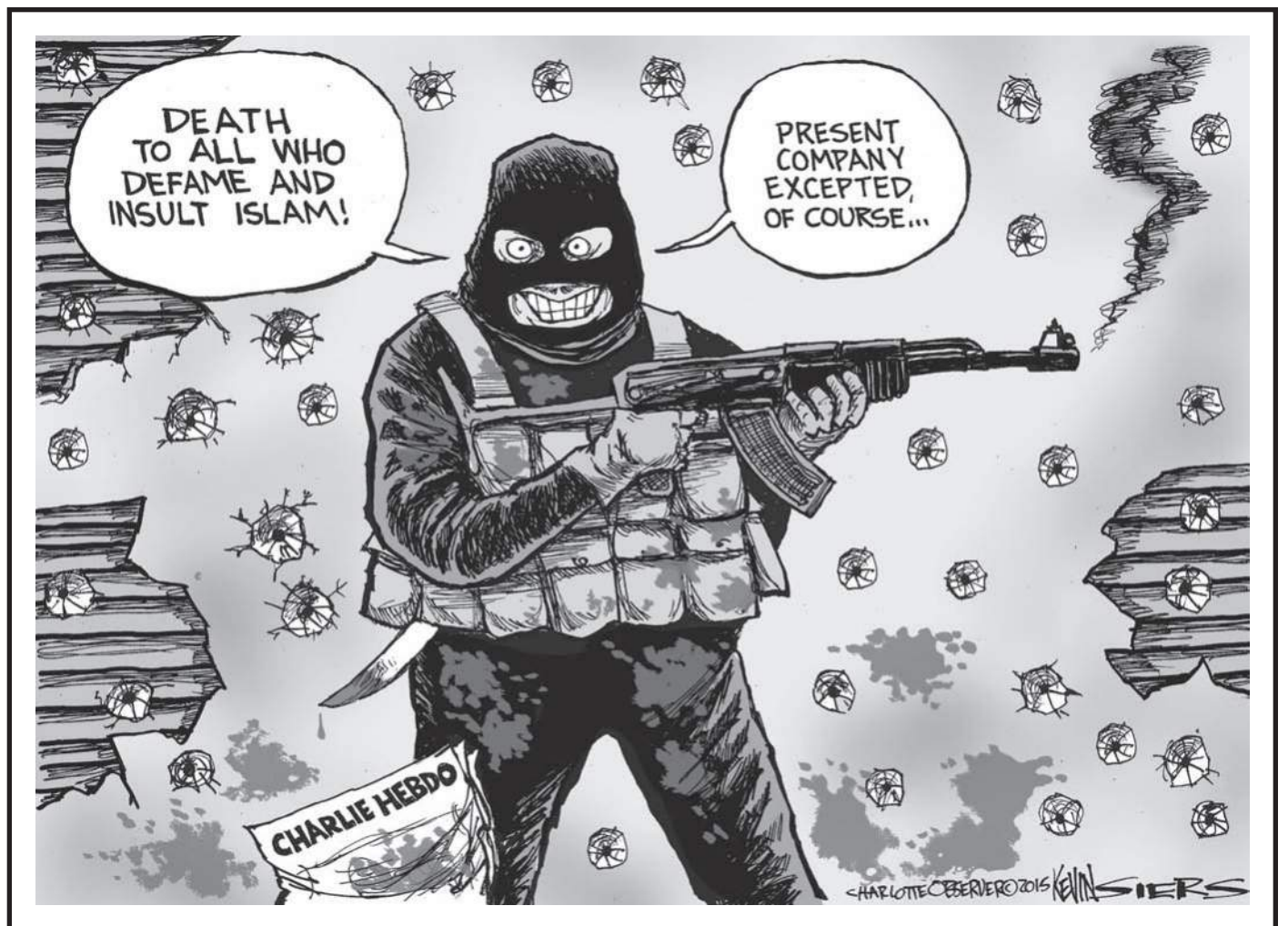
A cyber attack against Sony that included threats to moviegoers briefly complicated the release of "The Interview," a comedy that features the assassination of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

And just Tuesday, in a far tamer moment, a Maryland newspaper's editorial went viral by making fun of Kirby DeLauter, a local politician who laughably threatened to sue if the paper used his name without his permission. The editorial liberally printed his name before making a more serious point. It noted that another elected official had defended DeLauter, saying, "I think media outlets are cowards and they hide behind their labels of journalists...."

"Cowards?" wrote *The Frederick News-Post*. "Tell that to the families of the 60 journalists killed in 2014, or the 70 in 2013, or the 74 who died in 2012.... All in pursuit of the truth, or the most reliable version of it at hand in the most dangerous regions of the world."

Thankfully, most journalists are not in danger for informing the public or challenging those in power. But Wednesday's shocking events remind us that satire and other forms of expression are vulnerable to attack, even as free societies depend on them to guard against fear and tyranny.

(c)2015 The Kansas City Star (Kansas City, Mo.)



The Silk Road Economy

The passages are the inland road and the maritime route, the former going through Central Asia, and the latter sailing through the Indian Ocean to the Red Sea on to Europe.

Of the articulated civilizational dreams, Europe's Dream was exemplified by the claim that the "sun never sets on the British Empire." The American Dream had been a two-century experiment on political arrangement that allowed individuals to achieve goals in a country that encourages talent and will to go on merit rather than status and family connection; sadly, deteriorating to police insolence in turning their backs on their own city mayor at a funeral for two of their colleagues. (We'll stick to the "dream" rather than NYC and the new nationwide police movement.)

China's President Xi Jinping refers to the China Dream, traceable to the history of the PRC though of varying emphasis since Sun Yat-sen (aka Sun Yixian) deviated from the imperium of the Qin to the Qing dynasties and their claim to heaven's mandate. Mao Zedong focused on peasants and workers to lead party decisions, denied by the social elite in academe, thus the Cultural Revolution. Deng Xiaoping released the power of the economic jugular arteries to allow some to get rich first before others. Beijing now pulls together a three-pronged dream.

First, a democratic impulse invites all 1.3 billion Chinese to be part of the dream, not just the 80-million member CPC; the critical sectors of energy, military and finance are being pruned of wayward branches. This impulse is up against the comfortable accommodation to CPC's decision-making that curtailed initiative. But the impulse is in place.

Second is an egalitarian yearning meant to counter China's struggle with the elitist intelligentsia, a mainstay in China's society. This is systemic as the registration hu kuo system favors the urban dwellers against the rural. While PM Li Keqiang looks at a 60 percent urban population in the next decade, 15 percent of China's population that are registered in the countryside live in cities where they work but are deprived of urban amenities that their urban registered kin enjoy.

Aside from revamping the system, the current strategy to remedy the situation is two-pronged. One is to bring urban features to the rural, a tall order as expensive infrastructure and housing are beyond affordable. The other is to make the city a place where nature thrives; verdant commons, roof gardens and "green" parks to prevail, the maintenance of traditional practices that remarkably hold ecological ethos.

Third is a win-win outcome of economic exchanges, international and intra-country. This is really not just equity in numbers as it is an affirmation of the ancient wisdom of yin-yang, valuing harmony and cooperation, collaboration and mutual trade even in the midst of differences.

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



If the democratic impulse invites reforms, this last requires deep cultural roots of fairness and justice, of course, with «Chinese characteristics.»

The last Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Beijing saw the China-Japan lukewarm handshake, the signing of the China-USA Free Trade Agreement, and an OZ Tony Abbott vowing to «front shirt» Russian President Vladimir Putin. President Xi stuck to promoting an Asia Pacific Dream of shared destinies in glocal development, peace and mutually beneficial cooperation, jointly working for the prosperity and progress of the region.

The dream can be just a PR jingle with a squirm and a giggle; it can also be held in mutual trust, pursuing win-win cooperation, building on open trade and economy. Premier Li took the same to Myanmar for the ASEAN meeting, President Xi to G20 in Brisbane, signed an FTA with OZ, affirmed Kiwi that the 6-year-old FTA is still in place, and conferred with eight Pacific Island leaders in Fiji. The Silk Road Economic Circle maritime route just drew in Oceania!

On territorial disputes, the U.S. protects Japan/South Korea from being gobbled up by China, much the same way it kept Eretz Israel from being overwhelmed by the Arab states. In both cases, the politics of oil is slick and sleazy.

The WH and the Pentagon are separated by more than just the Potomac. Obama campaigned to close down Guantanamo's military prison but six years into his term, he has yet to get civil law into martial compounds, and not for lack of trying. BHO's strength is his ability to flaunt military machismo without losing political points, or compromise his wit in the haze of uniformed oxymoron. He avoids deploying GI Joe and Jane into conflict grounds. The media claims that U.S. male whiteness gave Obama a trumping in the last election.

The U.S. has a fourth of China's population, one in every five humans. China has the longest continuous civilization on the planet, and its China Dream is on. The Opinion page last Friday had two articles on China. So, why not let the Dream play the full course? Better yet, why not join 'em and add one's two-cent piece in the process?

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Nous sommes Charlie

A few months ago, Brandeis University disgraced its honorable namesake, the great Supreme Court justice, and decided to rescind an honorary degree and speaking invitation to Ayaan Hirsi Ali. Ali, the controversial critic of Islam, became the target of histrionic collegiate ranting, the type of florid and juvenile expression that is utterly worthless but nonetheless protected by the First Amendment. Even sound and fury, signifying nothing, gets constitutional cover.

At the time, I just shook my head and hoped the pampered, preening coeds would take time out from their self-important strutting and realize how fortunate they were to live in a country where unpopular voices were not only protected, they were actively solicited. I fantasized about some of the female protestors flexing their free speech muscles in a public square in Iran and getting more of an education than they'd ever get in their interdepartmental, multicultural seminars on "Feminism and The Meaning of No."

And then I re-read Ali's two memoirs, "Infidel" and "Nomad" to remind myself that a woman who has suffered genital mutilation, death threats and ultimate exile is so far superior to our coddled brand of reproducto-feminist that hers will be the voice that continues to resonate when the others fade quickly into irrelevancy.

I thought of this brave writer, filmmaker, politician and activist when I learned that 12 French citizens, including some legendary journalists and cartoonists, had been gunned down by crazed Islamists in Paris. I thought of her because she faces their probable fate, and continues to do what they did up until the very moment of their murders in an editorial meeting: speak a humorous, frank and biting truth to brutal power.

Ali was unfazed by the amateurish, collegiate critics who tried to block her speech, because she saw in them what so many of us see

in these churlish children: naivete. You cannot take seriously little boys and girls who depend on daddy and mama for their educations, who've never in their pampered, precious lives confronted evil Islamic gunmen hell bent on silencing dissent.

As I watched the reports from Paris, and as I saw my great grandfather's countrymen stand up and stare back with a defiance only the French can pull off, I felt ashamed of the type of protests I've seen on American streets. The marchers who scream "What do we want/Dead cops/When do we want it/Now!" and the ladies who dress up in high heels and lingerie for their noble "Slut Walks" make me long for the days of truly valuable speech, the kind that was met with bullhorns, bats and beatings. The kind that honored the First, most important Amendment in its effort to shatter the complacent, complicit silence.

Ali still shatters the silence with powerful messages of defiance and courage. She is not afraid to call out the demonic aspect of a religion that has bewitched evil men, and is paying the price with a sacrificed and unsettled life of constant movement and anxiety.

She is made of the same elements, fire and earth, that animated the great Frenchmen who combined passion with pragmatism, and told serious truths with deadly humor. They've paid for their courage in blood.

In this country, even among the mediocre masses on college campuses and in our streets there are people who stand apart and shine like human stars. The Philadelphia Daily News' beloved Signe Wilkinson is one of them, a woman who pricks and prods and pulls at the conscience of those in her extended Philadelphia family. Her ability to distill the truth from the froth of daily waste product in the marketplace of ideas earned her a Pulitzer, but entitles her to much more: our collective gratitude.

By **CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS**
Philadelphia Daily News



Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. Readers may send her email at cflowers1961@gmail.com.

The late Tony Auth, who angered and disgusted me for decades was another brave one who used his pen and his skills to aim arrows at the figures and institutions who'd earned (unjustifiably, I often thought) his mighty ink-stained wrath.

These two giants worked under the vaulting arc of freedom provided by the Founding Fathers, and didn't need to worry too much about death threats (although they came) and censors. This country gives them that.

France is our soul sister, who took our Declaration of Independence and refined it into the Rights of Man. She had been both our teacher and our student, our model and our imitator, our friend and our "frenemy." We need to stand beside her now, in solidarity, if only to convince ourselves that the Signes and Auths and Alis will continue to have our open ears, open hearts and open minds.

Brandeis, for all of its childish fits of fury, is an exception to the rule. In this country, we listen to the dissonant voices. And we cry out, in unity, with those who bleed because of the truths they've told.

Nous sommes Charlie.

Pay attention and engage—that's life going by

I'm pretty much done with mindfulness. I'm just going to start paying attention.

Detachment is now as overrated as quinoa and just about as inspiring. Mindfulness has become, at least for the non-practicing Buddhists among us, an often-convenient excuse for shirking the hard work of making decisions and shrugging off life's emotional bill.

As I understand it, mindfulness is the cultivation of an evenly hovering experience of present awareness, which means being open and receptive to everything without passing judgment or reacting reflexively.

Personally, I stopped paying attention to that definition after the ninth word.

And yet I'm somebody who's pretty good at paying attention.

I cut my teeth on the phrase "Pay attention, kid, and you just might learn something" because the person saying it was usually right: I learned something by watching or listening and was then able to imitate or avoid whatever they were doing.

You paid attention to your grandmother in the kitchen and learned to make spittini so perfect you still never order them even in a five-star restaurant because the ones you make at home are better.

You paid attention when the cousin who wore too much eye-liner and thought girls should let boys win got married in a tent-dress, then had a baby seven months later. You decided to put your hand up in class and shout out the right answers even if the teacher, who also thought girls should let boys win, wouldn't call on you.

You learned to make decisions, judgments and choices. You joined the world's conversation, which meant being informed and speaking out.

You learned to take sides, even when you could see the valid points made by the opposition. You developed opinions and embraced beliefs because you discovered that news, history and institutions, formed by those in power, shaped both culture and environment and did not merely reflect them.

You want more than to be "in" the moment because being "in" it isn't enough. You want to throw your arms around it and hold onto it, wringing every bit of intensity, significance and pleasure from the moment the way you'd wring water out of a wet cloth.

It's impossible, of course: Every moment, like water, evades, slips away, turns into something else.

As Heraclitus (a friend from the old neighborhood) used to say, no one can ever step in the same river twice.

But that doesn't mean you shouldn't want to make a splash, or immerse yourself entirely, or soak it all up.

It's true that mindfulness keeps the surface tension unbroken and calm; in its unwillingness to choose and its inability to commit, it certainly does keep its options open.

But this tidy sense of disengagement comes at a great cost: One

forges passion, fascination and an urgent sense of purposefulness in order to preserve inwardly focused self-regulation.

Paying attention is hard work. It's like putting pressure on a wound _ you can't let up or it starts bleeding again _ but you know there's blood in your veins. Not only will it keep you alive; it will help you deal with others who have been wounded.

In many ways, mindfulness and detachment have taken the place of multi-tasking, or perhaps they're multi-tasking's offspring. If you do everything simultaneously and without pausing, trying always to see the big picture without focusing on any one thing, the likelihood of creating something, grasping a new idea or initiating something of consequence thins out, like pastry rolled too fine, to the point where its integrity is diminished.

Multi-tasking was whole-grain; mindfulness is a smoothie.

Do you really want to make all of life's experiences into a smoothie?

Do you really want to blend it all into a cleansing mixture that you can have alone, without the mess of human interaction? By throw-

By **GINA BARRECA**
The Hartford Courant



Gina Barreca is an English professor at the University of Connecticut, a feminist scholar who has written eight books, and a columnist for the Hartford Courant. She can be reached through her website at <http://www.ginabarreca.com>.

ing everything in together, even if it's healthy, don't you remove the texture and flatten the taste? There's no crispness or crunch, no warm center or surprising sudden spice. You might as well take time by injection, removing the piquancy of fun, loyalty and intensity altogether.

Surely we were given our brief lives for more than a walk through the world with a "Do Not Disturb" sign hanging from our necks?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thanks, Sen. Reyes, a true example of civic virtue!

I want to take this opportunity to thank retiring senator Pete Reyes for his many years of service and for his commitment to the CNMI youth by donating his salary to the scholarship program, which my children and many others benefited from. Kudos to you, senator!

I have known for years that Sen. Reyes was donating his salary and even wrote about his noble gesture when I first learned about it. I just wish we had more politicians and people in the community with full pockets that would follow Pete's example and do more to help our children who are truly our future. I would like to even suggest that we rename the scholarship program after the senator for his noble deed as we should truly honor, recognize and give people flowers while they live and not wait until they are dead and they know nothing about the honoring of their immortal mark on Earth. Sen. Pete Reyes is a true example of civic virtue putting youth before his own personal wealth and even sacrificing his time to work

for free to help us all. Pete is a rare breed and the CNMI was blessed to have him!

While I have not always agreed with the senator on some issues and we have both attacked each other and made fun of each other in public statements, I can't deny the good in Sen. Reyes. He reminds me so much of many great Washington politicians who have done things like building Boys & Girls Clubs out of their own pocket to help their constituents' children and how our politicians are supposed to act in the political arena as Pete is a true professional who didn't hold a grudge against me when we disagreed and I spoke out publicly against him. He would even return my calls and entertain my concerns if I brought them to his attention, unlike many of our politicians who won't even give you the time of day once they get elected. But I'm glad that it seems Gov.-elect Inos has pledged to follow Pete's professional example by putting politics aside after the election and doing what is best for the CNMI by using some of the platform ideas and using some of the people from Heinz, Babauta and DeLeon Guerrero camps in his administration. We the people can only hope and pray that more of our politicians will try to follow the example of professionalism and civic virtue that surely helped to keep Pete in office for so many years.

Biba to you Sen. Reyes and may God bless you and your family as you have done well and left your immortal and positive mark of civic virtue on the CNMI by giving your time and giving your salary to our youth. Thank you for helping my children and others in the scholarship program!

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

Partly sunny and breezy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 20 to 25 mph.

▲85° ▼75°

Mostly cloudy and windy with scattered showers. Northeast winds 25 to 35 mph.

▲85° ▼76°

Mostly cloudy and windy with isolated showers.

▲85° ▼76°

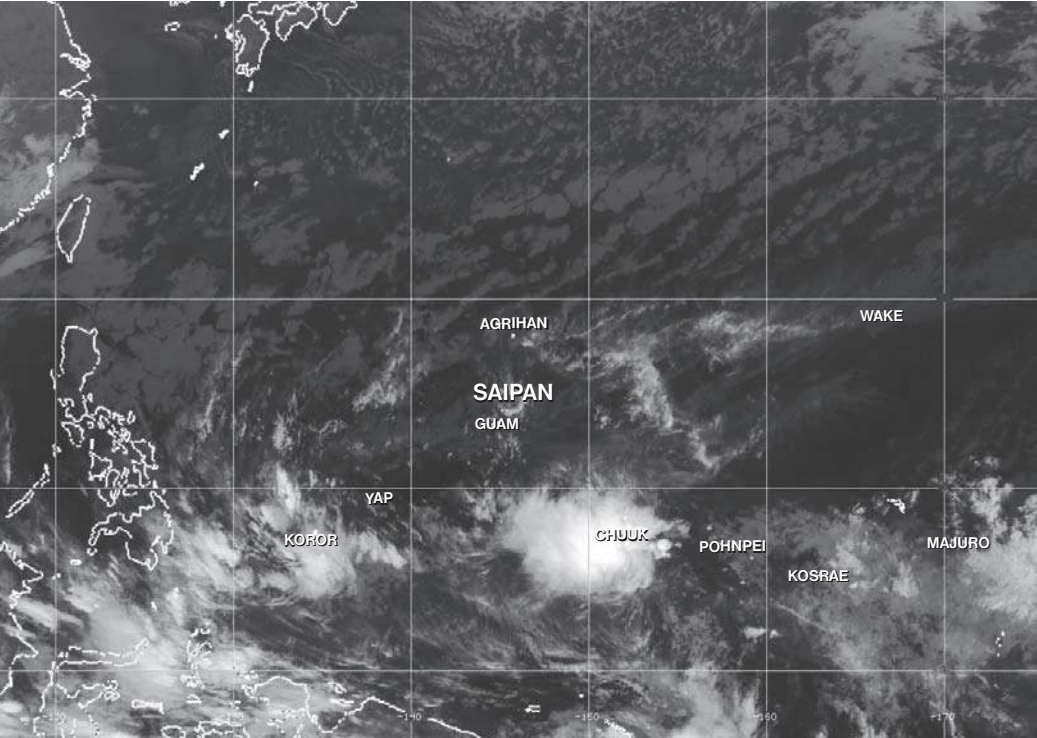
Mostly cloudy and windy with isolated showers.

▲85° ▼76°

Mostly sunny and breezy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼76°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from the date line at 25N to near Wake Island at 19N165E then continues as a shear line passing through the Marianas near Guam to 10N135E. Cloudiness and patchy showers are found along and up to 200 miles northwest of these boundaries. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with a trade wind disturbance are found near Yap between 8N and 11N from 135E to 140E. A near-equatorial trough runs eastward from 2N130E to a circulation centered south of Pohnpei near 3N155E to end near EQ163E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring south of Koror south of a line from 5N130E to 6N143E and over portions of Chuuk state between the equator and 9N from 143E to 156E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Majuro within 100 miles of a line from 8N168E to 5N175E to 6N180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Rain	▲83	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstoms	▲84	▼81
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼79

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲79	▼61
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲47	▼22
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲65	▼59
Honolulu	Sunny	▲81	▼65
London	Showers	▲54	▼45
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼49
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼69
Melbourne	Rain	▲75	▼62
Miami	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼70
New York	Ice	▲37	▼29
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲48	▼33
Paris	Rain	▲51	▼42
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲49	▼35
Rome	Sunny	▲59	▼41
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲52	▼38
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲59	▼47
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲40	▼24
Tokyo	Sunny	▲53	▼34
Washington, DC	Frozen Rain	▲37	▼33

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- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
5:48 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
12:29 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
7:21 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:46 AM	6:05 PM
Tuesday	6:46 AM	6:06 PM
Wednesday	6:47 AM	6:06 PM
Thursday	6:47 AM	6:07 PM
Friday	6:47 AM	6:07 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	11:43 PM	11:12 AM
Tuesday		11:51 AM
Wednesday	12:32 AM	12:32 PM
Thursday	1:22 AM	1:16 PM
Friday	2:14 AM	2:03 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 5, 2015

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:10pm	2:40pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4	UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	1:10am+1	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:35am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C 3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ6063	3:20am	7:10am	3, 4, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C 3401	4:30pm	8:20pm	Daily	OZ6053	8:50pm	2:10am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 4, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	PR110/UA5041	7:35am	6:25pm	1,5 via GUM
UA5069/PR111	2:45am	4:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5077	7:35am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	7:20am	2, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5043	7:35am	10:10pm	1, 5 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/288	9:40am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	10:00am	8:05pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5071/PR111	6:40am	4:50pm	3 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5071/PR111	7:15am	4:50pm	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:50pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5038	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN	UA184/5038	10:59pm	2:40pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota
				UA184/5077	10:59pm	2:40pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5041	10:59pm	6:25pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	10:59pm	8:05pm+1	2 via GUM
				UA184/5043	10:59pm	10:10pm+1	5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/723	2:10am	12:50pm	1 via ICN	OZ750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ606/723	2:40am	12:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	10:35pm	3 via GUM	OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:20pm	10:35pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:20pm	10:30pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA180/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1, 5 via GUM
				UA180/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
				UA180/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

Judiciary holds 'Law and the Freshman Legislator' seminar

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

The CNMI Judiciary conducted its sixth Law and the Freshman Legislator seminar last Thursday.

Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro began the seminar with an overview of the Covenant and the U.S. and CNMI Constitutions, and U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona following with a presentation on statutory interpretation.

Castro, along with Associate Judges Kenneth L. Govendo, Joseph N. Camacho, and Teresa Kim-Tenorio, subsequently discussed the role of courts to the legislators. The seminar was moderated by Justice John A. Manglona.

Michael A. Stanker, Judiciary general counsel and Law Revision Commission executive director, also touched on the basics of legal research. Following the presentations, Justice Perry B. Inos facilitated a question and answer portion with the justices and judges.

The freshman legislators in attendance included Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar and representatives-elect Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, Angel A. Demapan, Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, Glenn L. Maratita, Edwin K. Propst, Vinson Edward "Vinny" F. Sablan, and Francis S. Taimanao.

Propst told *Saipan Tribune* that the seminar was productive. "What I take from this program is that we as lawmakers need to be sure to write laws that are clear and unambiguous," he said.

Demapan and Taimanao noted the importance of using plain language in drafting legislation as well.

"I found the seminar very informative. It is also beneficial to my position as a lawmaker," Taimanao added.

Guerrero expressed his appreciation for the legal research presentation, which gave legislators insight on the Law Revision Commission's function in gathering Commonwealth laws and regulations.

The Law and the Freshman Legislator seminar was sponsored by the NMI Judiciary Historical Society and is held biannually for new legislators.



Judges Kenneth Govendo, Joseph Camacho, and Teresa Kim-Tenorio conduct a conversation on the role of courts, moderated by Justice John Manglona.



Freshmen legislators listen to discussions led by CNMI jurists.



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

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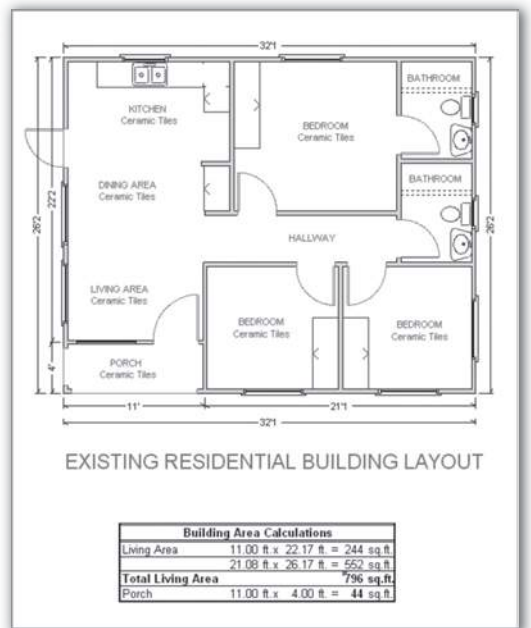


The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.:	011 G 1155	HASGNOT DR., CORNER LEMMAI WAY,
MINIMUM BID :	\$49,100.00	KAGMAN III

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2015 subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for this property shall be \$49,100.00.
2. Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - a. To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - c. To reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for this property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
6. Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.



Dated this 17th day of December, 2014.

/s/Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NMHC RFP 2014-006

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

To Conduct and Prepare the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

The Corporate Director of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("NMHC"), a subsidiary public corporation of the Commonwealth Development Authority ("CDA"), a public corporation of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands, is soliciting sealed proposals in conducting and preparing the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Proposal packets will be available on Monday, December 22, 2014, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI Holidays.

A mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's Office Conference Room. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or fax to (670) 234-9021, no later than Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 4:30 p.m., local time.

One (1) original and three (3) copies of the proposal shall be submitted in a sealed enveloped marked/stamped "Confidential" and labeled "NMHC RFP 2014-006", to the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 a.m., Friday, January 23, 2015.

The guidelines and specifications for this proposal may be picked up at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 during normal working hours from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI Holidays. Inquiries may be directed to Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director, or Mr. Jacob Muna, Planning Assistant, at telephone numbers (670) 234-6866 or fax (670) 234-9021.

This project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its respective program Administrative Fees for the Section 8 Multifamily, Housing Choice Voucher, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) provided to NMHC, which functions as the Public Housing Authority (PHA) for the Commonwealth.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest.

/s/Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

/s/Herman S. Sablan
Director
Procurement and Supply

Business

Obama to focus on cybersecurity issues next week

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Continuing the break with State of the Union tradition, President Barack Obama will spend most

of the coming week previewing more of the proposals he will outline in the address, including on identity theft,

electronic privacy and cybersecurity, the White House announced Saturday.

Obama will use a Monday

event at the Federal Trade Commission to lay out the next steps of a plan to tackle identity theft and improve consumer and stu-

dent privacy. It follows a plan Obama announced last October to tighten security for the debit cards that transmit federal benefits to millions of Americans.

After holding his first meeting of the new year with the top leaders in Congress on Tuesday, Obama will discuss cybersecurity, including ways of getting the private sector

and federal government to voluntarily share more cybersecurity information. He'll do so at the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center, a part of the Department of Homeland Security that shares information among the public and private sectors.

Obama's focus on cybersecurity follows the recent hack

of Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc. The president and other senior administration officials blame North Korea for the crippling attack, which

disclosed confidential company emails and business files and included threats of terror attacks against U.S. movie theaters until Sony agreed to cancel the Christmas release

of its film "The Interview." The comedy depicts an assassination plot against North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Sony eventually released the film online and in a small number of theaters.

On Wednesday, Obama will be in Iowa to talk about making affordable, high-speed Internet more available nationwide.



Obama

Streak of solid hiring bolsters confidence about 2015



In this June 23, 2014 file photo, recruiter Christina O, left, with New Western Acquisitions, meets with employment seekers during a job fair in Philadelphia. 2014 was the best year for job gains, with nearly 3 million jobs added, since 1999.

WASHINGTON (AP)—A healthy month of hiring in December capped the best year for U.S. job growth since 1999, demonstrating that employers are more confident than they've been since the Great Recession began.

Nearly 3 million jobs were added in 2014, and continued solid hiring is expected to propel the economy this year to its fastest growth in a decade. The gains are putting further distance between the strengthening American economy and struggling nations overseas.

"Last year was a truly breakout year for the labor market," said James Marple, an economist at TD Securities. "Businesses are increasingly looking to hire."

Friday's report from the Labor Department showed that employers added 252,000 jobs in December and 50,000 more in October and November combined than the government had previously estimated. The unemployment rate dropped to 5.6 percent from 5.8 percent in November. The rate is now at its lowest point since 2008.

The government's report did

point to some weaknesses, notably in Americans' paychecks, which have barely kept ahead of inflation during the 5 1/2-year recovery. In December, average hourly pay actually fell.

"The continued listless performance of hourly earnings is an ongoing frustration," said Richard Moody, an economist at Regions Financial.

And one reason the unemployment rate fell last month had nothing to do with more hiring: Many of the jobless gave up looking for work and so were no longer counted as

unemployed.

Still, while December's hiring did not match November's huge 353,000 gain, job growth in the final three months of 2014 averaged a robust 289,000. That was up sharply from the 239,000 average for the third quarter of 2014.

The unemployment rate is now near the 5.2 percent to 5.5 percent range that the Federal Reserve considers consistent with a healthy economy - one reason the Fed has been expected to raise interest rates from record lows by midyear.

AP source: GM plans affordable 200-mile electric car in 2017

DETROIT (AP) -- General Motors plans to start selling an affordable electric car in 2017 that will be able to go 200 miles on a single charge.

A person briefed on the matter told The Associated Press that GM plans to start selling a \$30,000 battery powered family car called the Chevrolet Bolt sometime in 2017.

A concept version of the car will be unveiled Monday at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, according to the person, who asked not to be identified because the official announcement hasn't been made.

The Bolt has been in the works for years and is designed to compete with electric offer-

ings from Tesla Motors Inc. and Nissan Motor Co.

The Palo Alto, California-based Tesla has plans for a \$35,000 electric car called the Model 3, which also is expected to go 200 miles per charge. Nissan sells the electric Leaf, which starts at about \$30,000 and can go up to 100 miles per charge.

GM has been selling the Chevrolet Volt plug-in electric car since late 2010, but it goes only 38 miles on electric power before a gas generator kicks in. An updated version of the Volt with greater all-electric range also will be unveiled at the auto show.

GM conceived the \$35,000 Volt as a mass-market car that could handle most trips on elec-

tric power, but had the generator to end worries that people would run out of juice. A concept version of the first-generation Volt was unveiled eight years ago at a time when GM didn't know for certain that the battery system would work.

The company also offers the all-electric Chevy Spark subcompact that can go 82 miles on a charge. It starts at \$26,685. Electric cars are eligible for a \$7,500 federal tax credit.

Doug Parks, GM's vice president of global product development, said in 2013 that GM was working on a 200-mile electric car for around \$35,000, confirming that the company was in a race with other automakers to hit that mileage range at

a moderate price.

GM has invested millions in developing electric cars starting with the EV1 in the 1990s. It doubled the size of its battery testing lab at a technical center in suburban Warren, Michigan, to 100,000 square feet in 2013, allowing it to test batteries and controls faster. It took about four years for GM to develop the Volt and bring it to market.

The new Volt, due out later this year, will hit showrooms at an uncertain time for electric vehicles with gas prices at \$2.15 a gallon nationwide, down more than \$1 per gallon from a year ago.

The 200-mile electric car was first reported late Friday by the Wall Street Journal.

'US did not 'hack back' against North Korea'

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The U.S. government was not responsible for crippling North Korea's Internet infrastructure after President Barack Obama blamed the country for hacking Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc., two senior U.S. officials told The Associated Press, as Congress announced Friday it will examine North Korea's cyberthreats starting next week.

In a new interview, the movie studio's chief executive, Michael Lynton, compared the sensational hacking against Sony Pictures to burning down the company. He revealed that the studio's network was still down more than six weeks later and was expected to remain that way for weeks longer.

"They came in the house, stole everything, then burned down the house," Lynton told the AP. "They destroyed servers, computers, wiped them clean of all the data and took all the data."

The Obama administration has steadfastly blamed North Korea for hacking Sony but has been deliberately coy about whether it retaliated and caused North Korea's outage, which affected all the nation's Internet connections starting the weekend of Dec. 20. The two officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to openly discuss the issue, acknowledged to the AP that it was not a U.S. operation.

In a twist, North Korea has denied it hacked Sony but publicly blamed the U.S. government for causing its Internet outages.

It was not immediately clear even within the administration whether rogue hackers or other

governments disrupted North Korea's networks. North Korea's service was sporadic starting Saturday, Dec. 20, then collapsed entirely for nearly 10 hours two days later in what has remained an enduring whodunit.

Within the U.S. government, contingents have debated privately whether to acknowledge that the U.S. played no role in North Korea's disruptions or remain silent to avoid detailed conversations about U.S. capabilities and policy on offensive cyberoperations, which are considered highly classified.

The disclosure denying U.S. involvement was intended to convey how seriously the administration considers offensive cyberattacks, intended to be used only in the most serious cases and consistent with the State Department's admonitions for foreign governments to always preserve access to the Internet for all citizens, one of the officials said.

Lynton, the studio's chief executive, told the AP that he never knew whether the U.S. government electronically attacked North Korea as retaliation for the break-in at his company. In a wide-ranging interview, Lynton described the scramble inside Sony in the days after Thanksgiving. Hackers calling themselves Guardians of Peace left a grim message on computers and damaged hard-drives, as sensitive company files leaked onto the Internet.

"We are the canary in the coal mine, that's for sure," Lynton said. "There's no playbook for this, so you are in essence trying to look at the situation as it unfolds and make decisions."

Nation

Boehner's embrace of GOP rebels nudges House caucus to right

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Die-hard House conservatives bungled a coup against House Speaker John Boehner but now look like winners, pushing Republicans farther right.

Rather than punish and isolate those who opposed him as leader, Boehner surprised many on Friday by embracing an immigration plan that's tougher than lawmakers had expected. It would block President Barack Obama's recent limits on deportations and undo protections for immigrants brought to the United States illegally as children.

The House is heading toward a vote Wednesday.

As the rebellious hard-liners celebrated, mainstream Republicans said Boehner's decision probably portends firmly conservative approaches to other issues. That would complicate life for some of the more moderate Senate Republicans and ensure fierce battles with the Democratic president.

Florida Rep. Richard Nugent, one of the 25 House Republicans who voted to oust Boehner, praised the Boehner-backed immigration plan.

The dissidents have complained that Boehner, R-Ohio,

is too willing to compromise with Obama and Democrats. But rather than seeing the rebels frozen out during private GOP discussions on immigration strategy, Nugent said, "this time it's a very collaborative approach."

For now, though, Nugent is still off the House Rules Committee, where membership is at the speaker's discretion.

Equally enthusiastic was Rep. Louie Gohmert, a Texas Republican sometimes portrayed by Democrats as the most unreasonable of conservative purists.

"One of the things that has really been lacking for the last eight years is having more input like we've finally gotten in this bill," Gohmert said.

Some Boehner allies had urged him to punish and isolate Gohmert and the other rebels.

But that approach might permanently antagonize tea party-leaning Republicans and "force Boehner into making more concessions" to Democrats to pass bills, "which is the last thing in the world we want," said GOP Rep. Kenny Marchant of Texas, shortly after Tuesday's leadership vote.

By Friday, Marchant was reassured. "The focus now is to solicit input and try to bring them into the fold," he said.

Boehner's agreement to nudge his caucus rightward, especially on immigration, could cause headaches for Repub-

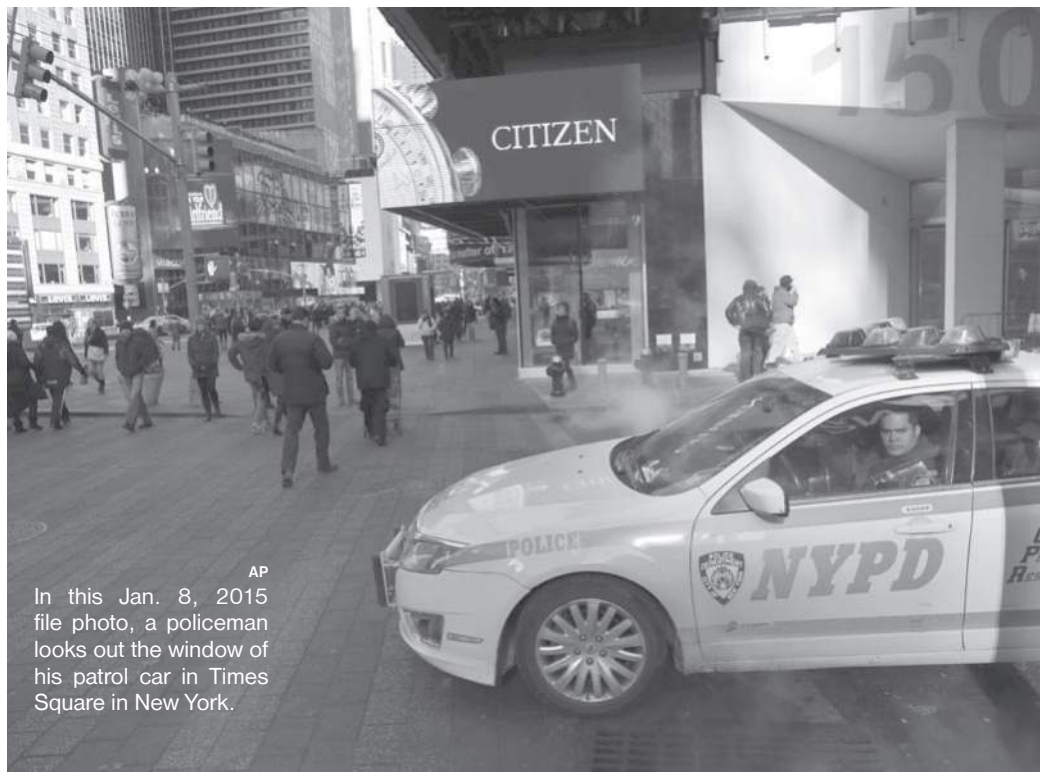
lican presidential candidates needing Hispanic votes. It also will complicate life for Senate Republicans, who now hold the majority but generally cannot pass bills without at least six Democratic votes, thanks to filibuster powers.

"It probably makes it more difficult in the Senate, but we shouldn't worry about what the Senate is going to do," said Rep. Tom Cole of Oklahoma, often seen as a voice for Republican House leaders.

The approach, Cole said,

"takes a lot of political pressure off House Republicans." One reason that 25 Republicans voted against Boehner, he said Friday, "was because they didn't believe we were going to do exactly what we're doing today" on immigration.

Times Square had 1 million revelers, zero tickets



AP
In this Jan. 8, 2015 file photo, a policeman looks out the window of his patrol car in Times Square in New York.

for double parking, no tickets for furry, costumed characters hassling tourists to take their picture. Add in low-level arrests, and there was just one, for a subway-related offense.

And that wasn't just on New Year's Eve. That was for the entire week containing the holiday. During the Christmas week, when the neon-lit streets were every bit as jammed, the total for such infractions was 23 - compared to more than 650 summonses per week the previous year, according to police statistics.

Times Square is perhaps the most jarring example of a slowdown in low-level enforcement across New York City amid tension between rank-and-file police and Mayor Bill de Blasio, whom they accuse of encouraging violence against cops by siding with protesters after the chokehold death of Eric Garner. They were particularly incensed by comments in which the mayor warned his biracial son to be wary in dealing with officers.

NEW YORK (AP) -- Of all the statistics from the recent New Year's Eve in Times Square - 1 million revelers, 2,000 pounds of confetti, thousands of police officers, dozens of surveillance

cameras - there is one number that stands out: zero, as in zero tickets for low-level crimes.

No tickets for having an open container of alcohol, no tickets for public urination, no tickets

ACROSS THE NATION

Hundreds in NYC gather in solidarity after French attacks

NEW YORK (AP) -- Hundreds of mostly French-speaking New Yorkers held pens aloft at a rally Saturday to insist on freedom of expression while decrying a deadly terror attack on a Paris satirical publication. The demonstrators braved below-freezing temperatures in Washington Square Park, where a leather-clad pole dancer gyrated in a provocative display meant to reflect the over-the-top cartoons in the magazine Charlie Hebdo. The dancer's live soundtrack came from a concert grand piano hauled into the Manhattan square for the occasion as she twirled under a sign that read "Je suis Charlie." French for "I am Charlie," the words have emerged as a global rallying cry since two gunmen with assault rifles killed 12 people Wednesday at the Paris headquarters of the magazine. New York organizers said they were showing solidarity with the French after three days of violence that, all told, left 20 dead, including three gunmen.

Police: Killing of 4 may have involved gangs

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -- Police on Saturday were investigating the possibility of gang involvement in the killings of four men shot to death in a trendy San Francisco neighborhood. The four were shot while sitting in a double-parked car

around 10 p.m. Friday in the Hayes Valley district, and died at the scene, police spokesman Albie Esparza said. Police on Saturday were trying to determine the make and model of a car that witnesses saw speeding from the scene, and to determine if it was linked to the killings, Esparza said in a statement. Police Chief Greg Suhr told the San Francisco Chronicle that police gang task-force and homicide units were combining efforts in case the killings could trigger any retaliatory violence. Residents of Hayes Valley, an area that includes popular restaurants, shops and art galleries, called police emergency lines Friday night to report hearing at least 15 shots, the Chronicle reported.

Maryland bishop facing manslaughter charge in custody

BALTIMORE (AP) -- In a spectacular fall from grace, Maryland's second-highest ranking Episcopal leader and the first female bishop in her diocese was charged with drunken driving and manslaughter after fatally striking a cyclist in late December. Heather Cook, 58, turned herself in to authorities Friday, according to her attorney, David Irwin. Online court records show Cook's bail was set at \$2.5 million. It was unclear late Friday whether she had posted bail. A trial is scheduled for Feb. 6. The charges came less than a

week after the national Episcopal Church opened an investigation into Cook, whose ties to the church span generations. On Dec. 27, Cook struck and killed Tom Palermo, 41, while he was riding his bicycle. According to prosecutors, Cook left the scene for 30 minutes before returning, and registered a blood-alcohol content of .22 percent after the wreck. Palermo died of a head injury at a nearby hospital later that day.

Idaho gunman kills 3 in multiple shootings

A gunman killed three people and wounded another during a spree at three locations in Moscow, Idaho, the authorities said. The suspect, 29-year-old John Lee, was captured Saturday afternoon following a high-speed chase in nearby Washington state. Moscow Police Chief David Duke said Lee killed his adoptive mother, 61-year-old Terri Grzebielski, at her home before heading to Northwest Mutual life insurance. The gunman shot David Trail, 76, a Moscow businessman, and Michael Chin, 39, of Seattle. Trail died at Pullman Regional Hospital and Chin was listed in critical condition Saturday night at Gritman Medical Center in Moscow. The shooter then drove to an Arby's restaurant and asked for the manager. When she appeared, he pulled out a gun and opened fire. The manager, 47-year-old Belinda Niebuhr, died at the Moscow hospital. (AP)

George Zimmerman arrested on aggravated assault charge

MIAMI (AP) -- Florida authorities say George Zimmerman, whose acquittal of murdering an unarmed black teen sparked a national debate on race and self-defense laws, has been arrested for allegedly throwing a wine bottle at his girlfriend.



Zimmerman

The Seminole County Sheriff's Office says the 31-year-old Zimmerman was arrested for aggravated assault at his home in Lake Mary about 10 p.m. Friday. Zimmerman was released on a \$5,000 bond Saturday afternoon. At a court appearance earlier Saturday, he was ordered to avoid contact with the woman, who was not identified.

Judge John Galluzzo gave few details of the incident, but said a wine bottle was involved and that the alleged assault happened at Zimmerman's home. Prosecutors questioned whether substance abuse treatment was needed, but the judge said that didn't seem to be a factor.

After the brief hearing, Zimmerman's attorney, Don West, told the Orlando Sentinel his client was arrested after allegedly throwing a wine bottle "in the direction of" his girlfriend several

days ago. "No injuries, no contact, nothing that I'm aware of that led up to it. It's just one of those things that somehow brought us here," West told reporters.

West didn't know who called police, but said he didn't think the alleged victim placed the call.

Zimmerman was also told by the judge to stay out of Volusia County, where the woman lives.

The judge ordered Zimmerman to pack up any personal belongings his girlfriend may have left at Zimmerman's home and give them to his lawyer.

Zimmerman, who wore blue scrubs and handcuffs, appeared calm during the brief hearing. At one point, he laughed and joked with an officer as he signed paperwork.

Although the incident didn't involve a firearm, the judge ordered Zimmerman to surrender any weapons out of an abundance of caution.

Zimmerman is scheduled to appear back in court on Feb. 17.

No further details about the alleged assault were released. A message left for Seminole County Sheriff officials seeking

further information about the incident was not immediately returned Saturday morning.

Zimmerman was acquitted in 2013 of a second-degree murder charge for shooting an unarmed teenager, Trayvon Martin.

Since his acquittal, Zimmerman has had several brushes with the law:

■ He was arrested on charges of aggravated assault, battery and criminal mischief after his then-girlfriend said he pointed a gun at her face during an argument, smashed her coffee table and pushed her out of the house they shared. Samantha Scheibe decided not to cooperate with detectives and prosecutors didn't pursue the case.

■ Zimmerman was accused by his estranged wife of smashing an iPad during an argument at the home they had shared. Shellie Zimmerman initially told a dispatcher her husband had a gun, though she later said he was unarmed. No charges were ever filed because of a lack of evidence. The dispute occurred days after Shellie Zimmerman filed divorce papers.

■ Zimmerman has also been pulled over three times for traffic violations since his acquittal.

Asia

AirAsia jet's tail lifted from sea but black boxes yet to be found



Rescuers wave at an Indonesian Air Force helicopter near portion of AirAsia Flight 8501 after it was recovered from the sea floor on the deck of a rescue ship on the Java Sea, Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015.

PANGKALAN BUN, Indonesia (AP) — A tail section from the AirAsia plane that crashed into the Java Sea late last month, killing all 162 people on board, became the first major wreckage lifted off the ocean floor Saturday, but the all-important black boxes were not found inside.

The red metal chunk, with the words "AirAsia" clearly visible across it, was brought to the surface using inflatable balloons.

The cockpit voice and flight data recorders, located in the plane's rear, must have detached when the Airbus A320 plummeted into the waters Dec. 28, said Indonesian military commander Gen. Moeldoko. Their recovery is essential to finding out why Flight

8501 crashed.

However, Moeldoko, who like many Indonesians uses only one name, said pings believed to be coming from the black boxes were detected Saturday. Their beacons emit signals for about 30 days until the batteries die, meaning divers have about two weeks left to find them.

"I am fully confident that the black boxes are still not far from the tail," Moeldoko said.

The debris was brought up from a depth of about 30 meters (100 feet) and towed to a ship, where it was hoisted onto the deck. The vertical stabilizer was still largely intact, but the attached jagged fuselage was ripped open and tangled by a mess of wires.

The tail's discovery ear-

lier in the week was a major breakthrough in the slow-moving search, which has been hampered by seasonal rains, choppy seas and blinding silt from river runoff.

But Suryadi Bambang Supriyadi, operation director of Indonesia's national search and rescue agency, said Saturday that he was still focused on finding the main section of fuselage, where most of the bodies are believed to be entombed. Several large objects have been spotted in the area by sonar, but they have not yet been explored underwater. So far, only 48 corpses have been recovered.

"This is what the families have been waiting for," Supriyadi said. "They have been crying for 14 days."

dialogue with North Korea. The U.S. has previously refused to cancel military drills with South Korea, even at times of high tensions, and has said the North must first demonstrate how sincere it is about nuclear disarmament before serious talks can resume. The North's reported proposal comes at a time of animosity between North Korea and the U.S. over a Sony movie depicting the assassination of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Strong quake rocks Philippines capital, no damage, injuries

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine seismologists say a magnitude-6 earthquake has jolted the capital, Manila, rousing people from their sleep. There are no immediate reports of damage or injuries. Renato Solidum of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said the pre-dawn quake was centered under the sea about 27 miles (43 kilometers) southwest of the town of San Antonio in the northwestern province of Zambales, but was too deep under the seabed to cause any significant damage or casualties. Solidum says aftershocks are expected, adding the quake was also felt across the main northern Luzon island. The Philippine archipelago lies in the Pacific "Ring of Fire," where earthquakes and volcanic activities are common.

World

France hunts suspect, prepares for a mass anti-terrorism rally

PARIS (AP) — France vowed to combat terrorism with "a cry for freedom" in a giant rally for unity Sunday after three days of bloodshed that horrified the world. Police searched for a woman linked to the three al-Qaida-inspired attackers, but a Turkish official said she appears to have already slipped into Syria.

The rally Sunday is also a huge security challenge for a nation on alert for more violence, after 17 people and three gunmen were killed over three days of attacks on a satirical newspaper, a kosher supermarket and on police that have left France a changed land.

Hundreds of thousands of people marched Saturday in cities from Toulouse in the south to Rennes in the west to

honor the victims, and Paris expects hundreds of thousands more at Sunday's unity rally. More than 2,000 police are being deployed, in addition to tens of thousands already guarding synagogues, mosques, schools and other sites around France.

Unity against extremism is the overriding message for Sunday's rally. Among the expected attendees are the Israeli prime minister and the Palestinian president. The Ukrainian president and Russian foreign minister, And the leaders of Britain, Germany, NATO, the Arab League and African nations. And the French masses, from across the political and religious spectrum.

Top European and U.S. security officials are also holding a special emergency meet-

ing in Paris about fighting terrorism.

The rally "must show the power, the dignity of the French people who will be shouting out of love of freedom and tolerance," Prime Minister Manuel Valls said Saturday.

"Journalists were killed because they defended freedom. Policemen were killed because they were protecting you. Jews were killed because they were Jewish," he said. "The indignation must be absolute and total — not for three days only, but permanently."

Al-Qaida's branch in Yemen said it directed Wednesday's attack against the publication Charlie Hebdo to avenge the honor of the Prophet Muhammad, a frequent target of the weekly's satire.

Hundreds said killed by Boko Haram in Nigeria

KANO, Nigeria—Hundreds of people have been killed in northeastern Nigeria in terror attacks in the last week, local officials say, as Boko Haram militants took control of 16 towns in a new humiliation for the country's struggling armed forces.

Boko Haram gunmen stormed the town of Baga on Saturday, killing about 100, district head Baba Abba Hassan said. In all, hundreds appear to have died in attacks across the region, local officials said. But Hassan dismissed reports circulated on Internet social media sites that 2,000 people had been killed.

"To say 2,000 people were killed is on the high side. The death toll could run into several hundreds," Hassan said, adding that no headcount had

been made.

"To add to our misery, Boko Haram fighters who remained in the area went on a burning spree, setting fire to our homes after looting them," Hassan said.

Nigerian military authorities say they plan to launch a counterattack to regain control of Baga, a fishing community on the shores of Lake Chad adjacent to a military base. The base is part of a multinational effort to fight the Islamist militants with troops from Nigeria, Niger and Chad. But forces from Chad had not yet been deployed and Niger's forces had withdrawn from the base before the Boko Haram attack took place.

Gruesome images have sprung up on Twitter, including ones showing hundreds of badly burned corpses laid out



Source: BBC
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

on a village square. One shocking image showed a woman and her baby, both burned to death. Images are accompanied by the hashtag BokoHaram-Killed2000People. (*Los Angeles Times*)

Violence fuels debate over interpreting faith

CAIRO (AP) — After gunmen in Paris killed 12 people, Saudi Arabia's top body of Muslim clerics quickly condemned the attack and said it could have no acceptable justification. It was a signal from some of the Islamic world's strictest voices that cartoons lampooning the Prophet Muhammad in the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo were not a reason to kill the artists.

Only days later, Saudi Arabia sent an opposing message: On Friday, a young Saudi was whipped 50 times in a public square in the city of Jiddah, the first of what will be 20 such weekly rounds of lashes. That, along with 10 years in prison, is his sentence from the kingdom's religious-based courts for insulting Islam, based on posts on his blog criticizing

prominent clerics close to the monarchy.

The contradiction points to the difficulties at a time of a growing debate within Islam about whether and how to reject a radical minority that some fear is dragging them into conflict and wrecking the faith.

Western critics are increasingly brazen about suggesting there is something inherent in Islam that is sparking violence by some of its adherents. Most Muslims reject this, arguing that the tumult of the post-colonial Middle East has created fertile ground for radicalism among people whose faith is fundamentally one of peace.

Nonetheless, the past year has seen increasing voices among Muslims saying their community must re-examine their faith to modernize its

interpretations and sideline extremists. As much as recent attacks in the West, the rise of startlingly vicious violence by Sunni Muslim militants in the name of Islam against fellow Muslims, including Sunnis, brought it home for many Muslims that something must change in religious discourse.

In Syria and Iraq, the Islamic State group has butchered entire families of Sunnis and beheaded Sunni soldiers, as well as Western hostages. In Pakistan, a Dec. 16 militant attack on a school that killed 150 people, mostly children, stunned the country. It made many Pakistanis question any empathy they felt in the past toward militant groups - the attitude of "even if they're wrong, they're still fellow Muslims."

ASIAN BRIEFS

Bus crashes into oil tanker in southern Pakistan, killing 57

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — A doctor at a hospital in southern Pakistan says 57 people are dead after a fiery crash between a passenger bus and an oil tanker. Dr. Seemi Jamali, who heads the emergency section at Jinnah Post Graduate Medical Center in Karachi, says they had received 57 bodies. She says the bodies were so charred that they would have to do DNA tests to identify the victims. The Minister of Transportation for Sindh Province, Mir Mumtaz Hussain Jakhrani, says the crash happened when the passenger bus hit an oil tanker early Sunday about 50 kilometers (31 miles) outside of Karachi. Such horrific traffic accidents are not uncommon in Pakistan due to reckless, untrained drivers and poor roads.

North Korea hints at nuclear test moratorium

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea has told the United States that it is willing to impose a temporary moratorium on its nuclear tests if Washington scraps planned military drills with South Korea this year, the North's official news agency said Saturday. Washington called the linking of the military drills with a possible nuclear test "an implicit threat," but said it was open to

Focus

Pope's trip to Sri Lanka and Philippines: 5 things to know

AP
In this Nov. 10, 2013 file photo, residents walk beside a large ship that was washed ashore by strong waves caused by Typhoon Haiyan in Tacloban city, Leyte province central Philippines. Pope Francis will visit this predominantly Catholic country on Jan. 15-19. Filipino bishops have made environmental concerns a top priority, and Pope Francis will visit survivors of Typhoon Haiyan, which the government has held up as an example of the extreme weather patterns that may be the result of climate change.

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Pope Francis embarks on his second Asian pilgrimage this coming week, visiting Sri Lanka and the Philippines exactly 20 years after St. John Paul II's record-making visit to two countries with wildly disparate Catholic populations. Francis will make headlines of his own, drawing millions of faithful in the Philippines and treading uncharted political waters following Sri Lanka's remarkable electoral upset this past week.

New Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena, who capitalized on former President Mahinda Rajapaksa's unpopularity among the island nation's ethnic and religious minorities, will be on hand to welcome Francis when he arrives in the capital, Colombo, on Tuesday.

Francis will be bringing a message of reconciliation between the Sinhalese majority and Tamil minority and interfaith harmony after Sri Lanka's quarter-century civil war ended in 2009 with the army's violent crushing of the Tamil Tiger rebels.

It isn't known whether Francis will weigh in on Sri Lanka's refusal to cooperate with a U.N. investigation into alleged war crimes in the final stages of the war. A 2011 U.N. report said up to 40,000 ethnic Tamil civilians may have been killed during the offensive, and accused both sides of committing serious human rights violations.

Here are five things to look for during Francis' trip, split between two days in Sri Lanka and three in the Philippines.

TAMIL TRAVELS

Significantly, Francis will travel to the Tamil region of northern Sri Lanka to pray at a Christian shrine and meet with Tamil faithful. The Our Lady of Madhu shrine is revered by both Sinhalese and Tamil Catholics, providing the perfect

backdrop for the pope to encourage reconciliation in a part of Sri Lanka that was devastated by the war.

"It's a very strong gesture," said the Rev. Bernardo Cervellera, whose Vatican-affiliated missionary news agency AsiaNews covers the Catholic Church in Asia closely. "He is going to this area where John Paul couldn't go because of the war."

The Catholic Church considers itself uniquely poised to be a force for unity in Sri Lanka because it counts both Sinhalese and Tamils as members. They worship together, with liturgies often alternating between the two languages, said the Rev. Prasad Harshan, a Sri Lankan doctoral student at Rome's Pontifical Holy Cross University.

"He's making an extra effort to go to these areas, and to see these victims," he said. "That will be a wonderful sign of solidarity."

Francis' canonization Wednesday of Sri Lanka's first saint, the Rev. Giuseppe Vaz, is another sign of unity: The 17th century missionary is credited with having revived the Catholic faith in the country amid persecution by Dutch colonial rulers, ministering to both Sinhalese and Tamil faithful.

BUDDHIST FUNDAMENTALISM

When John Paul visited Sri Lanka in 1995, he too tried to bring a message of tolerance, but was met with a boycott by the island nation's Buddhist leaders, who constitute 70 percent of the population. (Hindus represent some 13 percent, Muslims 10 percent and Catholics about 7 percent, according to Vatican figures).

Buddhist representatives had been expected to attend an interfaith meeting, but none showed up to protest John Paul's criticism of the Buddhist doctrine of salvation.

Buddhist fundamentalism has only grown in the ensuing 20 years, with hard-line Buddhists waging a violent campaign against Muslims.

But two moderate Buddhist representatives are scheduled to greet Francis during an interfaith meeting on the first day of his visit.

"I don't know if during other occasions or places there might be discordant voices from fundamentalists," said the Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi. "We'll have to see."

Francis has denounced the rise of religious fundamentalism in Sri Lanka and the extremists who promote a "false sense of national unity based on a single religious identity."

During a meeting with visiting Sri Lankan bishops last May, Francis said the local church must continue to seek "partners in peace and interlocutors in dialogue" despite violence and intimidation from religious extremists.

SECURITY CONCERNS

As with any papal trip, security will be tight in both Sri Lanka and the Philippines, even for a pope who relishes plunging into crowds and driving around in open-topped cars rather than bullet-proof popemobiles.

But the concerns on the Philippine leg of the trip are not without merit, given current tensions with Islam and the rather checkered history of papal visits to Asia's largest Roman Catholic country.

When Pope Paul VI arrived in Manila in 1970 for the first-ever papal visit, he was immediately rushed by a would-be assassin dressed as a priest who stabbed him in the gut and neck. The wounds were superficial and the attacker wrestled to the ground, but blood was drawn.

This past October, the two blood-

stained vests Paul wore that day were selected as the relics used during his Vatican beatification ceremony.

A week before St. John Paul II visited the Philippines in January 1995, Filipino authorities said they discovered a plot by Muslim extremists to kill the pontiff after they were led by an accidental fire to a terrorist hideout in a Manila apartment building, where they found bomb-making chemicals, his picture, maps showing routes where he would pass and a tailor's receipt for a priest cassock.

Authorities later blamed the plot on Ramzi Yousef, who was convicted of masterminding the 1993 World Trade Center bombing.

CROWD CONTROL

That said, John Paul's 1995 visit was perhaps more noteworthy for having set a papal milestone that no pope has since met: An estimated 5 million people turned out for John Paul's final Mass, filling Manila's Rizal Park and spreading out for miles in every direction.

The boulevards were so jammed that John Paul was forced to arrive at the Mass by helicopter — over an hour late — because his motorcade simply couldn't reach the altar.

The Philippines, with a population of 100 million, is about 81 percent Catholic.

The Rev. Gregory Gaston, rector of the Pontifical Filipino College, said he expected that the wildly popular Francis might surpass John Paul's record, noting that local leaders have given workers time off so they can attend his key events, which include a Mass on Jan. 18 in the same Rizal Park as John Paul's historic finale.

"Now the concern isn't from terrorists, but from the people — because the people love the pope so much, there's

the chance they might mob him!" Gaston said, laughing.

ENVIRONMENT

Francis is expected to focus his remarks in the Philippines on issues related to families: Each day he'll meet with families young and old, including ones separated by members who have left home to find work overseas. But another issue he's expected to raise, at least fleetingly, is the environment.

Filipino bishops have made environmental concerns a top priority, and Francis will visit survivors of Typhoon Haiyan, which the government has held up as an example of the extreme weather patterns that may be the result of climate change.

Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman, said Francis doesn't have a dedicated speech to the environment, but that "we can expect some references."

Ever since he was installed as the first pope named for the nature-loving St. Francis of Assisi, Francis has called for greater attention to caring for God's creation.

Speculation has been mounting about how far Francis will take that call in his forthcoming encyclical on ecology: Environmentalists hope that the document, expected sometime this spring, will help jump-start stalled international efforts to curb climate change.

But those who reject scientific findings that climate change is man-made are already condemning the pope for taking up the issue at all.

Maureen Mullarkey of First Things, a conservative U.S. Catholic journal, wrote in a recent blog post that Francis is "imprudent" and "sullies his office by using demagogic formulations to bully the populace into reflexive climate action with no more substantive guide than theologized propaganda."

Health & Fitness

5 things to look for as govt writes new dietary advice

WASHINGTON (AP) -- For years, the government has told Americans to eat their vegetables. A rewrite of the government's dietary guidelines could include some new advice, too, on sugar, salt, meat and caffeine.

Whether individuals listen or not, the dietary guidelines affect nutritional patterns throughout the country - from federally subsidized school lunches to labels on food packages to your doctor's advice. They also form the basis for the government's "My Plate" icon, which replaced the food pyramid a few years ago.

A government advisory committee made up of medical and nutrition experts is set to issue preliminary recommendations this month. It indicated in draft recommendations circulated in December that it may suggest some changes in current dietary advice.

The secretaries of the Agriculture and Health and Human Services Departments will take those recommendations into account as they craft the final 2015 guidelines, expected by the end of the year.

Five things to watch for as the government begins writing the new guidelines:



In this Nov. 2, 2013 file photo, various cuts of beef and pork are displayed for sale in the meat department at a discount market in Arlington, Va. Every five years, the government tells Americans how to eat healthier. Whether individuals listen or not, the dietary guidelines affect nutritional patterns throughout the country—from federally-subsidized school lunches to labels on food packages to your doctor's advice. A government advisory committee is set to issue preliminary recommendations for the guidelines this month.

REAL LIMITS ON SUGAR

The 2010 dietary guidelines recommended generally reducing caloric intake from sugars added during food processing or preparation. Those added sugars act the same in the body as naturally occurring sugars, but generally add empty calories.

In its draft recommendations, this year's advisory committee is suggesting specific limits on added sugars for the first time, advising that only 10 percent of calorie intake come from added sugars.

The committee said that currently, Americans get about 13 percent of their total calories from added sugar, or 268 calories a day. Much of that is from sugary drinks. Older children, adolescents and young adults get as much as 17 percent of their calories daily from added sugars.

The Food and Drug Administration proposed last year that the amount of added sugars be included as a line on nutrition facts labels on food packages.

HOW MUCH SALT IS TOO MUCH

Lowering sodium is important for heart health, and the 2010 dietary guidelines recommend that people eat less than 2,300 milligrams a day. That is reduced to 1,500 milligrams for people who are 51 and older, African-American or those who have hypertension, diabetes or chronic kidney disease. Those subgroups amount to about half of the population.

While the committee's draft recommendations appear similar, it is unclear if their advice on sodium will be as strong as the 2010 guidelines. A 2013 report by the Institute of Medicine said that while lowering salt intake is important for health, there is no good evidence that eating less than 2,300 milligrams a day of

sodium offers benefits.

The dietary guidelines advisory panel noted that years of public pressure to lower sodium levels has not had much effect. The average American consumes more than 3,400 mg of sodium a day, or about 1 1/2 teaspoons.

EAT LESS MEAT?

Current guidelines advise that people eat lean meats as a healthy way to get protein, but the advisory panel has debated whether lean meats should be included.

In addition, the draft recommendation discussed at the panel's Dec. 15 meeting says a healthy dietary pattern includes fewer "red and processed meats" than are currently consumed.

After that meeting, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association sent out a statement by doctor and cattle producer Richard Thorpe calling the committee biased and the draft meat recommendations absurd. He said lean beef has a role in healthy diets. The American Meat Institute issued comments calling any attempt to take lean meat out of a healthy dietary pattern "stunning" and "arbitrary."

NEW ADVICE ON CAFFEINE

The advisory committee indicated it may propose guidelines that would urge pregnant women to limit caffeine intake. The

2010 guidelines don't address caffeine use.

The panel said it supports advice from medical organizations that pregnant women limit caffeine to less than 200 milligrams a day, or around two cups of coffee.

"Limited evidence suggests that moderate caffeine intake is associated with a small increased risk of miscarriage, stillbirth, low birth weight, and small for gestational age births," the committee said in its draft recommendations.

ROLE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Over the past year, the committee has discussed the idea of including sustainability as a dietary goal. The advisory panel said in its draft recommendations that there is "compatibility and overlap" between what is good for health and what is good for the environment.

The committee has framed the issue in terms of ensuring food access for future generations, and also what foods are healthiest.

Guidelines addressing the environment could be another blow for the meat industry. A diet higher in plant-based foods and lower in animal-based foods is "more health promoting and is associated with lesser environmental impact than is the current average U.S. diet," the draft recommendations said.

Personal Trainer

Salvaging a bad day on the court

When a round of tennis turns into a nonstop disaster, experienced players use tricks like these to recover and get back in the groove.

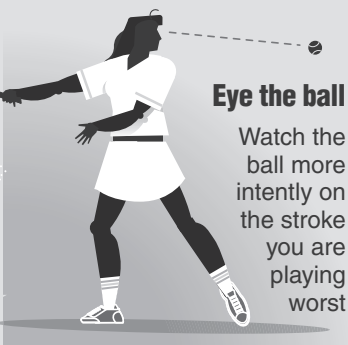
Work the serve

When your serve keeps going out, keep your head up and back toe on the ground



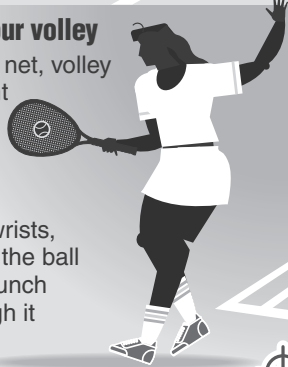
Eye the ball

Watch the ball more intently on the stroke you are playing worst



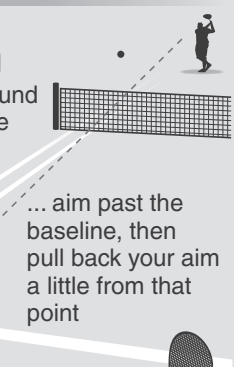
Fix your volley

At the net, volley in front of your body, lower your wrists, follow the ball and punch through it



Hit short balls long

If your ground strokes are hitting the net ...

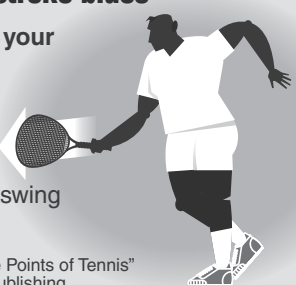


... aim past the baseline, then pull back your aim a little from that point

Ground stroke blues

Fixes for your forehand

- Lean forward
- Shorten your backswing



Fixes for your backhand

- Plant your front foot firmly
- Turn across your body more



Source: "Fine Points of Tennis" by Sterling Publishing

Source: Helen Lee McComas, Paul Trap
Graphic: Tribune News Service

Medicare pays doctors to coordinate seniors' chronic care

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Adjusting medications before someone gets sick enough to visit the doctor. Updating outside specialists so one doctor's prescription doesn't interfere with another's.

Starting this month, Medicare will pay primary care doctors a monthly fee to better coordinate care for the most vulnerable seniors - those with multiple chronic illnesses - even if they don't have a face-to-face exam.

The goal is to help patients stay healthier between doctor visits, and avoid pricey hospitals and nursing homes.

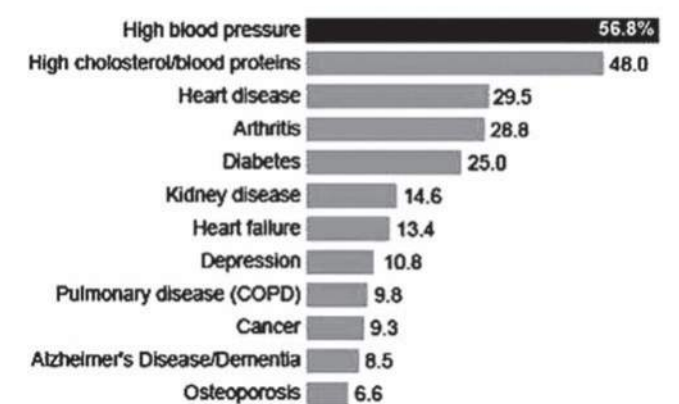
"We all need care coordination. Medicare patients need it more than ever," said Sean Cavanaugh, deputy administrator at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

About two-thirds of Medicare beneficiaries have two or more chronic conditions, such as diabetes, heart disease or kidney disease. Their care is famously fragmented. They tend to visit numerous doctors for different illnesses.

Too often, no one oversees their overall health - making sure multiple treatments don't mix badly, that X-rays and other tests aren't

Medicare patient maladies

Prevalence of the most common chronic ailments in patients 65 years and older who are enrolled in Medicare:



NOTE: Data is for 2012.

SOURCE: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

AP

repeated just because one doctor didn't know another already had ordered them, and that nothing falls between the cracks.

Medicare's new fee, which is about \$40 a month per qualified patient, marks a big policy shift. Usually, the program pays for services in the doctor's office.

"We're hoping to spur change, getting physicians to be much more willing to spend time working on the needs of these patients without necessitating the patient to come into

the office," Cavanaugh told The Associated Press.

To earn the new fee, doctors must come up with a care plan for qualified patients, and spend time each month on such activities as coordinating their care with other health providers and monitoring their medications. Also, patients must have a way to reach someone with the care team who can access their health records 24 hours a day, for proper evaluation of an after-hours complaint.

Life & Style

30 years later, 'Back To The Future' car in legal battle



In this Oct. 26, 2010 file photo, cast members of the "Back to the Future" movies appear on the NBC "Today" television program, commemorating the 25th anniversary of the films, in New York. They are, from left, posing with a replica of the DeLorean car, Lea Thompson, Christopher Lloyd, Mary Steenburgen, Michael J. Fox, director Robert Zemeckis, and Huey Lewis.

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP)—As "Back To The Future" celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, there's a legal tussle over the futuristic car that provided the guts for the flying time machine used by Michael J. Fox in the classic 1985 film.

Maverick automaker John DeLorean's eponymous creation co-starred in the 1985 movie as it transported Marty McFly back to the 1950s to engineer his parents' meeting — and, in a 1989 sequel, to a 2015 world that featured flying skateboards, automated dog-walkers and self-drying jackets.

Now, DeLorean's widow, Sally, claims in a federal lawsuit that Texas-based DeLorean Motor Company has been illegally using the DeLorean name to sell hats, pens, notebooks, key chains and other items, and has illegally licensed the name and images to other companies including Nike, Mattel, Urban Outfitters and Apple. The company has never been formally affiliated with the one DeLorean started.

The Texas company "has improperly and illegally appropriated for its own use Mr. DeLorean's legacy, including the DeLorean Identity, together with intellectual property," the lawsuit alleges.

The suit claims the company has plans to manufacture an electric version of the car, which it says would be illegal because the car's design belongs to John DeLorean's estate.

In addition to seeking to stop the company from continuing to use the trademarks, the suit seeks damages as well as the company's profits derived from their use. Through its attorney, the company has denied all claims and asserted it has the right to the trademarks.

The two sides have a settlement conference scheduled for next month.

John Z. DeLorean was an automotive innovator who began his career at General Motors and is credited by some with creating America's first "muscle" car, the Pontiac GTO, in the mid-1960s. He left GM in the early 1970s to launch his own company and eventually produced the DMC 12, referred to simply as "the DeLorean," a sleek, angular car with gull-wing doors and an unpainted stainless-steel exterior.

Only about 9,000 of the cars were produced before DeLorean's company went bankrupt in the early 1980s, but the car's look and cult following helped land it a role in the "Back To The Future" films. According to the Internet Movie Database, the car was chosen because it would plausibly look like a spacecraft to people in the 1950s flashback scenes.

DeLorean died in New Jersey in 2005 at age 80 after years of court battles that included a highly publicized drug trial in the 1980s in which he was acquitted of conspiring to sell millions of dollars of cocaine. His former estate in the rolling hills west of New York City was converted into a golf course by developer Donald Trump in 2004. Sally DeLorean lives in New Jersey with her daughter.


Attorney R. Scott Thompson, who represents Sally DeLorean, said John DeLorean bought his company's trademarks, images and other intellectual property during the company's bankruptcy proceeding. The lawsuit alleges that in 2004 he gave the owners of the Texas company permission to make a small modification to the car's user

manual, and they acknowledged that DeLorean owned the intellectual property.

At that time, the lawsuit contends, the Texas company was a "small forum" where DeLorean enthusiasts could buy or sell parts or exchange information. The company, disputes this characterization.

William Mead, a New Jersey-based attorney representing DeLorean Motor Company, said in an email that the company existed for 10 years prior to John DeLorean's death and has registered trademarks. He said DeLorean was aware of its operations and didn't express opposition.

The Texas company has been assembling and selling DeLorean cars made from original factory parts it acquired in the original bankruptcy proceeding, Mead said.



In Loving Memory of
†Malcolm Justin Palacios Maui
 January 06, 1995 - January 04, 2015

His memories will forever live in the heart of his
Parents: Kenneth Quichocho and Annette Palacios Cruz

He will be greatly missed by his brothers and sisters and grandparents.


He is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, relatives and friends.

Daily Mass of Intentions are being celebrated for the repose of his soul each evening at 6:00pm and Holy Rosary is being prayed at 7:00pm at San Jose Church, Tinian, CNMI.

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, January 15, 2015. His remain will be escorted from Tinian Health Center at 8:00am to San Jose Church. Responso Service and Holy Rosary will take place upon arrival of remains. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am followed by Interment Service at Tinian Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers,
 Thank you - Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Kenneth Q. and Annette P. Cruz and Family



FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

† *Andresina Chong Villagomez*

We, the children, invite all our families and friends to join us in prayer as we commemorate the first year death anniversary of our dearly beloved Mom.

Daily mass of intention will be offered at St. Jude Church beginning on January 12, 2015 through January 20, 2015. The schedule will be as follows:


Monday, January 12 through Friday, January 16 – 6:00 p.m. Mass immediately followed by Lisayo
 Saturday, January 17 – 7:00 a.m. Mass immediately followed by Lisayo
 Sunday, January 18 – 8:00 a.m. Mass immediately followed by Lisayo
 Monday, January 19 – 6:00 p.m. Mass immediately followed by Lisayo

On the final day, Tuesday, January 20, the Lisayo will be said at 5:15 p.m. and the mass will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. Following the mass, dinner will be served at the family residence in As Perdido.

Your presence, thoughts, and prayers are greatly appreciated.
 Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank You.

From the children

Jesus, Joseph, Rita, Francisco, Josepha and Ramon & Families



Redmayne, Knightley among nominated Brits toasting with tea

LOS ANGELES (AP) — For some Golden Globe nominees, awards season began with a cup of tea.

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts held its annual pre-Globes tea party Saturday at the Four Seasons Hotel, where Keira Knightley, Eddie Redmayne, Felicity Jones and Patricia Arquette were among those toasting the season with scones and finger sandwiches. Other guests included Niecy Nash, Marion Cotillard, Dominic West, Anna Kendrick, Steve Carell, “Game of Thrones” star Kit Harrington and “Into the Woods” star James Corden.

“I love this event,” said Gerald McRaney, a star of “House of Cards,” up for TV drama series at Sunday’s Golden Globes. “It’s casual. It’s not the big, pressurized thing. You sit, you have a cuppa, and that’s it.”

“I actually really need tea right now because of my throat,” said nominee Gina Rodriguez, star of TV’s “Jane the Virgin,” which is up for best



James Righton, left, and Keira Knightley arrive at the BAFTA 2015 awards season tea party at The Four Seasons Hotel on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015, in Los Angeles.

comedy or musical series.

There was also a crafts component to the afternoon. Ethan

Hawke went straight for the leatherworking table presented by British fashion brand Mul-

berry. The supporting actor nominee for “Boyhood” made a pair of personalized leather

bracelets, using a tiny hammer to pound out the design letter by letter.

Nominees who wanted to take home more than a bracelet could pop into the HBO Luxury Lounge upstairs, where stars could receive Nautica rain jackets (on a rare rainy afternoon in LA) and play Pandora Plinko to win jewelry. Viola Davis, nominated for her starring role in “How to Get Away With Murder,” scored a pair of sparkly earrings she loved so much, she wore them out.

Arquette, meanwhile, said she wishes she was still working on film she’s nominated for, best picture (drama) candidate “Boyhood.”

“I missed the process before we stopped,” she said of filming the 12-year project. “I told (best director nominee) Richard (Linklater), ‘This isn’t a 12-year movie. This is a movie that wraps when I die.’”

‘Mad Men’ begins its stretch run in April

By DAVID BAUDER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—The television series “Mad Men” begins airing its final seven episodes in April and the show’s notoriously secretive creator, Matthew Weiner, said he told only star actor Jon Hamm in advance how it will end.

So Weiner certainly wasn’t spilling any secrets to a roomful of television critics Saturday as he and the cast, by turns wistful and appreciative, talked about their experiences over the past decade. The series begins its stretch run on AMC on April 5.

“I feel very satisfied with a lot of what we did, and I am super proud of the fact that we did not repeat ourselves, which is the tallest order of all of them,”

Weiner said.

The creator and executive producer immersed himself in 1960s culture to write “Mad Men,” set at an ad agency during that era. He said he was struck by how many Americans turned inward after the tumultuous events of 1968, including the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Robert F. Kennedy, and said that is reflected in the ending of his series.

Each of the last seven episodes feels like a finale, Weiner said. He took great pains over the years not to publicly reveal details of the show in advance but, behind the scenes, would often talk to actors about ideas that he had for their characters. That wasn’t the case for the end of the series. Actors like Elisabeth Moss said Saturday they

were pleasantly surprised by the ending.

“It was surprising to the end,” actor John Slattery said. “It’s been surprising the whole time.”

Weiner said he’s certainly interested in making the ending satisfying to fans. But he cautioned that you can’t please everyone, and it wouldn’t be smart creatively to do that.

“I don’t want them to walk away angry,” Weiner said. “I don’t know anyone—unless they’re performance artists—who wants to infuriate their audience.”

Weiner said he tried to be protective of the show’s image over the past decade and not tarnish it with too much commercialization. Future perception is out of his hands, he said, although “I don’t see the show participating in a ‘Mad Men’ cruise.”

Eva Longoria turns focus on sports world in new ESPN films

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—Eva Longoria is putting her focus on the sports world in a new series of short films the actress is executive producing for ESPN.

Longoria’s first effort for the “Versus” series debuting in May is about Sebastien De La Cruz, the young mariachi singer whose performance of the national anthem before Game 3 of the 2013 NBA Finals set off a barrage of racist tweets about Latinos and immigrants.

Like Longoria, De La Cruz is from San Antonio, Texas, so the story hit close to home for the Mexican-American actress. She was once married to Spurs star Tony Parker.

“I really wanted to tell that story because what came out of

it was something beautiful and a really great lesson,” Longoria told the Television Critics Association meeting Wednesday. “We got into this little boy who plays soccer and was thrown into the center of this debate about immigration and what it’s about to be Mexican.”

Longoria was approached by ESPN to work on the “Versus” series that explores moments where sports transcends the action on the field.

Among the Spurs appearing in the film is coach Gregg Popovich, who congratulated De La Cruz at midcourt after his performance.

“Nobody had a stronger reaction than Popovich,” Longoria said. “That was the first person I went to and said,

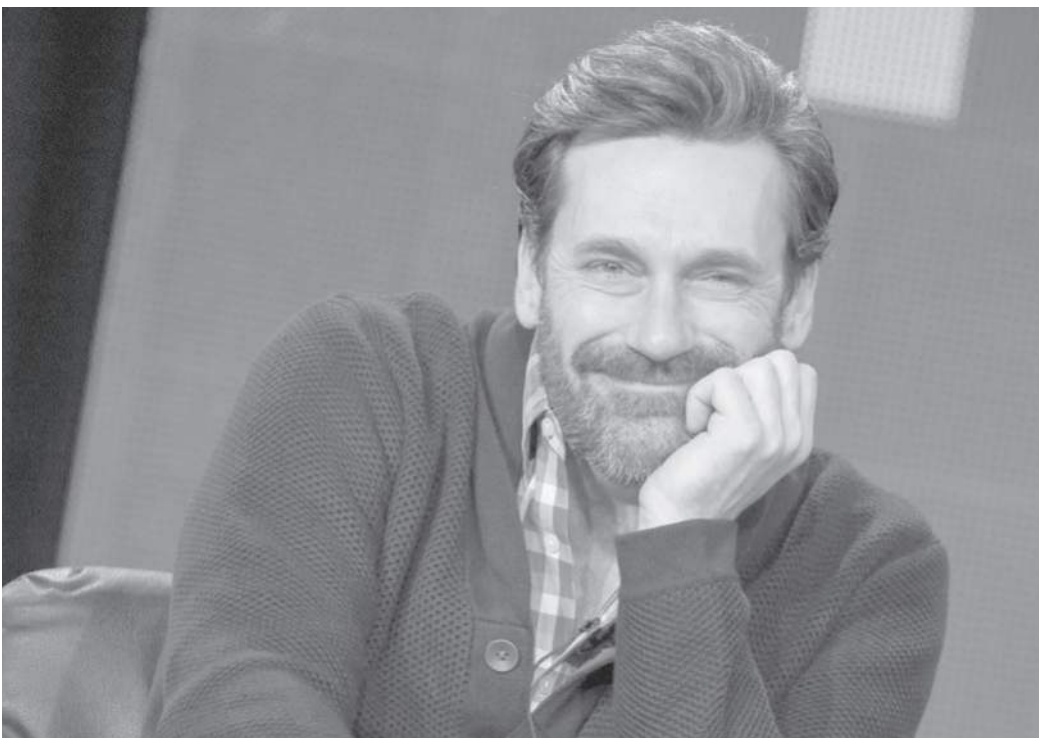
‘Will you please do this because it’s so important?’ and he said, ‘Done.’”

Another of the short films Longoria worked on involves Violet Palmer, the NBA’s first female referee.

Since her star-making turn in the hit series “Desperate Housewives” ended three years ago, Longoria has moved mostly behind the camera.

“I’m a natural at directing because I love telling people what to do,” she said, laughing. “I really enjoy finding the truth of things as opposed to working with actors.”

Longoria said she plans to be back on television next year, although she said, “I don’t know how or where or what yet.”



James Righton, left, and Keira Knightley arrive at the BAFTA 2015 awards season tea party at The Four Seasons Hotel on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015, in Los Angeles.

Study: White men get most entry-level TV directing jobs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Women and minority directors are losing out on crucial entry-level jobs, according to a Directors Guild of America study released Friday.

Of the 479 first-time directors hired to work on TV series from 2009 to 2014, men represented 82 percent and women 18 percent, the study said. The vast majority of the first-time directors — 87 percent — were white.

“There’s a big opportunity here for those in charge of hiring to make a difference, but they’re not,” DGA President Paris Barclay said in a statement. If women and minority directors fail to get a foothold on the career ladder, he said, “it’ll be status quo from here to eternity.”

Betty Thomas, the guild’s first vice president and co-chair of its diversity task force, said studios and executive producers are making choices that demonstrate “they don’t actively support diversity hiring.”

“First-time TV directors are new to the game and come from all areas of the industry, including film school. So why is a woman or minority any less qualified than anybody else?” Thomas said in a statement.

Barclay, who is African-American, and Thomas are themselves successful directors. Barclay’s credits include TV’s “NYPD Blue,” “Sons of Anarchy” and “Glee.” Thomas, a former actress, has directed films including “Doctor Doolittle” and “28 Days.”

The study found varied re-

sumes among first-time directors, with actors making up 18 percent. Others included assistant directors and production managers (10 percent), and cinematographers and camera operators (8 percent). Directors from film, music videos and other genres made up the rest of the group studied.

Criticism of lack of diversity behind and in front of the camera has long dogged the entertainment industry.

Last year, a guild analysis of all 3,500 cable, broadcast and high-budget online shows airing in the 2013-14 season found that the vast majority were directed by white men. The guild said at the time that employers had made no significant improvement in diversity among TV directors over the past four years.

Nicole Kidman on Jimmy Fallon: 'It was awkward'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nicole Kidman says she wasn't exactly trying to "seduce" Jimmy Fallon when the two went on a date years ago.

The actress reminisced with "The Tonight Show" host about their encounter at Fallon's New York apartment in an "awkward" interview this week.

"Um, was I trying to seduce him? I don't know if seduction is part of my repertoire. I think I was more just kind of open to the idea, which never eventuated, so ..." Kidman said Thursday while promoting her new movie "Paddington," which opens Jan. 16.

The two were set up by a mutual friend when both were single, a bit before Kidman starred in 2005's "Bewitched." Both are now married with children. Fallon said in the interview that he hadn't realized the meeting was a date. He blushed and dove under his desk at one point in embarrassment.

Kidman was apparently also embarrassed while telling the story.



In this Sept. 8, 2014 file photo, Nicole Kidman arrives at Tod's Boutique Re-Opening party in New York.

"So not planned. I mean, that should be apparent because it was so, I mean. Anyway, he'll

kill me. As I said, I'll probably never be asked—I'll never go back on the show. No, just jok-

ing," she said. "Yeah, it was awkward. The whole thing was awkward. But anyway."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

2 test 'winners' inadvertently posted on Globes site

LOS ANGELES (AP)—As if Hollywood hasn't had enough leaks of late. For a short time on Friday night, the official website of Sunday's Golden Globe Awards posted what appeared to be this year's winners in two top Globes categories, setting off some momentary excitement in the industry trade press. The Hollywood Foreign Press Association, which runs the annual awards, referred all inquiries to its site administrator, Bluefin. "While testing the official website of the Golden Globe Awards for Sunday's ceremony, Bluefin inadvertently took the test live," said a company statement. "We randomly selected two film titles with no knowledge of the category winners. We are solely responsible for the error."

Director signed for History's 'Roots' miniseries remake

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The History channel is moving closer to a remake of the groundbreaking TV miniseries "Roots." The channel said Allen Hughes, whose credits include "Menace II Society" and "The Book of Eli," has been hired to direct the project. Hughes also will serve as an executive producer with Mark Wolper and Marc Toberoff. The new miniseries, announced in 2013, remains in development and has yet to be greenlighted. But the progress makes it likely the new "Roots" will end up on TV. Wolper's father, David, produced the original 1977 miniseries that was based on Alex Haley's historical novel. It was an Emmy-winner and TV sensation. "Roots," the story of an enslaved African-American family, starred Ben Vereen, LeVar Burton and

Olivia Cole. Casting for the remake has yet to be announced.

Idina Menzel's 'If/Then' closing on Broadway March 22

NEW YORK (AP)—The Broadway musical "If/then," which brought Idina Menzel back to Broadway after her "Frozen" movie bonanza, will close March 22 after 401 performances, it was announced Friday. The show had reunited Menzel with "Wicked" producer David Stone, "Rent" director Michael Greif and "Rent" co-star Anthony Rapp. Menzel, who won a Tony for "Wicked," was nominated for "If/Then" but didn't win. Unlike "Frozen," the huge popularity of her song "Let it Go" and a little extra buzz from John Travolta mangling her name at the Academy Awards, "If/Then" was a middling box office performer. The contemporary, original story follows Elizabeth, a city planner who moves back to New York to restart her life, which splits into two parallel paths told simultaneously.

AMC making miniseries on roots of 5 New York Mafia families

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—The AMC network will be married to the mob this spring. The network announced Saturday that it was making an eight-hour miniseries, "Making of the Mob: New York," on the roots of the five crime families that made up the American Mafia. Each one-hour episode will be paired with a mob-related film, like "The Godfather," "Goodfellas" "Donnie Brasco" and "Scarface." The series will feature the real-life characters Charles "Lucky" Luciano, Meyer Lansky and Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, and include recreations as well as archival footage.

Katy Perry to team with Lenny Kravitz at Super Bowl concert

Katy Perry will team with Lenny Kravitz at the Super Bowl.

Perry said Saturday on NBC's Baltimore-New England telecast that Kravitz will join for the halftime show at the Sunday, Feb. 1 game in Glendale, Arizona.

Perry has dominated the Bill-

board charts since releasing her debut in 2008, including 10 No. 1 hits on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. She's currently on her Prismatic World Tour.

Kravitz has sold more than 38 million albums worldwide and has several Grammys to his credit.

Chris Pine, JJ Abrams to help announce Oscar nominees live

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Oscar nominees in all 24 categories will hear their names announced live next week.

Academy Awards producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron said Friday they are launching a new tradition of revealing all Oscar contenders in a live news conference. In past years, only the most popular categories were presented live, with the remainder announced in a news release.

Actor Chris Pine, directors JJ Abrams and Alfonso Cuaron, and film academy president Cheryl Boone Isaacs will unveil the nominees early Thursday at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' headquarters in Beverly Hills, California. The announcement will stream live on Oscars.org.

The Academy Awards will be presented at the Dolby Theatre on Feb. 22.

Triumph the Insult Comic Dog gets his own series

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—Triumph the Insult Comic Dog is getting his own sitcom, and he'll have former "30 Rock" actor Jack McBrayer to "poop on" on a regular basis.

Adult Swim, the late-night, adult-oriented arm of the Cartoon Network, said Saturday it will air "The Jack and Triumph Show" starting Feb. 20. McBrayer plays a grown-up child star of a "Lassie" type show with Triumph, the puppet created by former Conan O'Brien writer Robert Smigel, as his washed-up canine companion.

Smigel hides behind chairs and other furniture on the sitcom set to "play" Triumph, the Don Rickles-type puppet that first emerged on O'Brien's late-night NBC show in 1997.

McBrayer, who played the cheerful, innocent intern on "30 Rock," once appeared on an O'Brien segment being insulted by Triumph and it turned

out to be one of the puppet's most successful segments, Smigel said.

The idea of a sitcom "seemed insane, but somehow with Jack it turned out to be attractive," Smigel said at a television meeting on Saturday.

McBrayer wryly noted that his acting range lent itself well "to smile real big and be terrified by Triumph's antics."

Smigel said he's tried to keep Triumph fresh as a character by not overusing him through the years, making the sitcom possible. He said several networks expressed interest in the idea, but the Turner-owned Adult Swim committed to 20 episodes without a pilot.

Following a round of insults lobbed at an audience of TV critics, Smigel retired Triumph to a plastic Old Navy bag.

"I usually alternate between Old Navy and Duane Reade," Smigel said. "It's really all he deserves."

Woman should leave her abusive boyfriend ASAP

DEAR ABBY: I have been with "Paul" for 10 months. We met shortly after he and his fiancée broke up. Because of her, he had gone into debt, and after their breakup he lost his job.

I have helped him with money from the moment we met. He's still jobless and his unemployment benefit will end shortly, but Abby, he is careless with money. He ends up spending mine and borrows from friends who have to be paid back. Last month, he took my credit card, and within a week 1,400 euros were gone and bills were left unpaid.

Because Paul is stressed and depressed, he goes out and drinks. More than once he has spent the rent money in bars. He often gets home at 4 a.m. He's also jealous and controlling. He texts and rings me constantly and asks why I took so long to answer. If I go out for a coffee, he demands to know who with. He has a hot temper and shouts at me for the slightest thing—like if I didn't close a door, or he thinks I didn't pay attention to something he said.

Our sex life has never been great. He blames me for that, too. He says I don't initiate it enough, and he's threatening to start going with other girls. He is also bossy. He always says I never do anything for him. Even though I work until 5:30, he expects me to bring him water, coffee, turn on the air con and stuff.

I love Paul, but I don't feel appreciated. I'm scared of what he will do when I leave. Please, Abby, I need your advice.

TORN IN LONDON

DEAR TORN: Your Paul is an emotionally abusive, bottomless pit. He will suck you dry financially and emotionally if you let him. It's important that you get rid of him NOW.

If you think Paul might do something to you if you end the relationship, contact the police or a domestic abuse hotline and take their guidance. If you think he might harm himself, FORGET it. Paul will survive. It doesn't take a psychic to predict he will quickly find someone else to use, so don't worry about him and don't look back.

DEAR ABBY: Every year, a co-worker brings her daughters to the office to sell Girl Scout cookies. The kids are adorable, and it's hard to say "no" because Mom hovers nearby as the girls approach each cubicle. Regardless of whether one cares to donate to the cause or not, it feels like Mom is forcing us into buying by doing this. What happened to the old "leave the order sheet at the reception desk" custom? Am I overreacting?

SOURD ON SWEETS

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR SOURD: Yes. All you have to do is smile and say, "No, I'm sorry, sweethearts. I can't do it this year." Actually, you may be doing the girls a favor, because an important part of selling is learning to cope with disappointment when a customer says no.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable -- and most frequently requested -- poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby -- Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

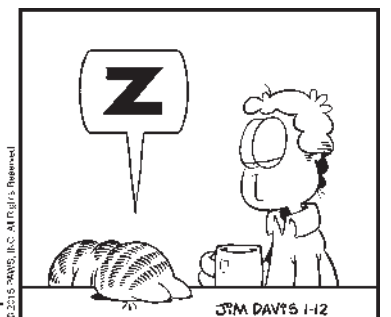
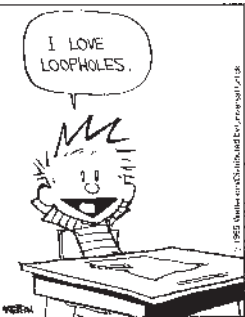
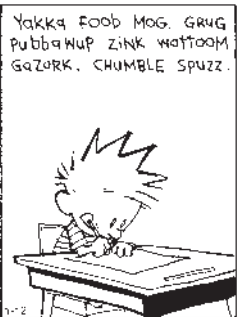
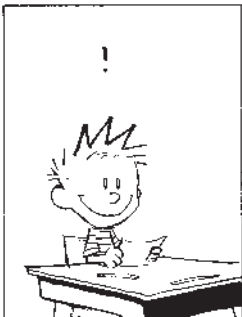
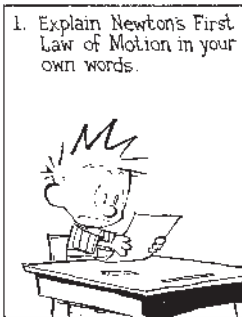
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Pivot
5 Ferrari
8 Grate
12 Pleasing to the ear
14 Canyon sound
15 Hawaii's capital
16 First slayer
17 "— the season ..."
18 Capturing
20 Wild West show
23 Normandy battle site
24 Newspaper page
25 Georgia's capital
28 Sleuth
29 "A Room With —"
30 — and outs
32 New Hampshire's capital
34 "Star —"

DOWN

1 "Be quiet!"
2 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
3 Grecian vessel
4 Over-acted
5 Wilde-beests
6 Have a bug
7 Abandoned, like plans
8 Suppose
9 Anti-oxidant berry
10 Leg part
11 Vintage video game
13 Hodge-podge
19 "There oughta be —!"
20 Decay
21 Oil cartel
22 Erté's art style
23 Uses a swizzle stick
25 Declared as true
26 Grow weary
27 From the start
29 Pinnacle
31 Firmament
33 Get snug
34 Robberies
36 Slices
37 Prepare to travel
38 Astronaut Shepard
39 Portrayal
40 Nursery furnishing
43 Gorilla
44 Bullring bravo
45 Mardi Gras VIP
46 NYC summer hrs.

35 Ostriches' kin
36 Like caramel
37 3.26 light years
40 Pool-room prop
41 Greatly
42 Connect-icut's capital
47 Use a phone
48 Biblical letters
49 Elbow counter-part
50 Society new-comer
51 Send a certain message

Solution time: 27 mins.

Friday's answer 1-12

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W	I	D	E	L	O	C	A	R	E	O
S	E	E	D	T	H	I	N	K	I	N

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zayn Malik, 22; Naya Rivera, 28; Oliver Platt, 55; Kirstie Alley, 64.

Happy Birthday: Consistency will lead to greater security and stability. Don't be tempted to make impulsive moves just because the people around you are doing so. A practical, realistic approach to whatever you do or the challenges you come up against will help you maintain the status quo. Research, fact-find and follow through. Partnerships will be fruitful as long as equality is maintained. Your numbers are 5, 12, 21, 27, 36, 42, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): No matter what you do, use charm and diplomacy. Force, demands or sulking will only push people away and keep you from getting what you really want. Be smart and ready to find solutions instead of making matters worse. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can accomplish plenty if you use past experience, a little intuition and some manpower to accomplish your goals. Don't let a sticky situation with a co-worker or friend turn into a problem that can hurt your reputation. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your clever input and charming way of dealing with others will help you bypass an incident that could be detrimental to your position. Opportunity knocks when it comes to romance. Be ready to agree to a special request. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Listen to people offering different opinions or suggestions. Getting fresh input will help

you reconfigure your strategy and help you discover what you have to do in order to achieve your dreams. Children will contribute to a decision you make. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't let anyone slow you down. It's your turn to be in the spotlight and to enjoy the moment. Love is on the rise, and talks will lead to future plans and plenty of incentive to do your best. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Show your fun side. Getting out and doing things with friends or family will help you build a closer bond and keep you informed about what everyone else is up to. Don't criticize, just listen and make friendly suggestions. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Consider what's good for you and others before making a rash decision that will affect the ones you love. Impulsive moves will be difficult to rectify. Focus on the positives and offer love, not rejection. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be careful how you treat the ones you love. Problems will escalate if you aren't sympathetic to the needs of someone going through a difficult situation. Listen carefully and offer compassion and understanding. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Listen carefully, weed out unrealistic input and put your plans into motion. Travel, communication and improving your personal life and domestic situation will bring benefits that far exceed your expectations. Love is on the rise. *****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You cannot control everything. Take care of your responsibilities and keep moving forward. Don't let emotions get in the way of your critical thinking skills. Size up your situation and do what needs to be done. **



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Focus and move forward. Financial gains can be made if you are smart about the way you handle your expenses. Cut corners by establishing what is necessary and what isn't. Love and self-improvement are both highlighted and will compliment one another. *****



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't let others confuse you or keep you from doing what needs to be done. Someone from your past may tempt you to rethink things and reconsider the future. The consequences are too great a risk. Do what's best for you long-term. ***



Birthday Baby: You are compassionate, but strict and ethical. You are organized and precise.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

6			9		2			1
	7		8		5		3	
			2			9		
	1	3		8		6	4	
			5		6			
	5	6		3		2	9	
		4				1		
	6		1		3		2	
5			2		4			8

Difficulty Level ★

1/12

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

7	9	5	3	4	6	2	1	8
6	4	1	2	5	8	3	7	9
2	3	8	9	1	7	4	6	5
5	6	9	1	7	3	8	4	2
1	2	7	4	8	9	5	3	6
3	8	4	6	2	5	1	9	7
4	7	6	5	3	2	9	8	1
9	1	2	8	6	4	7	5	3
8	5	3	7	9	1	6	2	4

Difficulty Level *****

1/12

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MAGAZINE COVERS

Solution: 9 letters

S	A	D	N	O	I	T	A	L	U	C	R	I	C	L
L	U	R	E	N	O	I	T	C	E	L	L	O	C	A
E	T	B	M	O	N	T	H	L	Y	N	E	W	S	I
G	O	S	S	E	R	D	E	R	E	A	D	E	R	S
N	M	S	N	C	S	B	F	A	S	H	I	O	N	R
I	O	E	O	P	R	O	V	O	C	A	T	I	V	E
K	B	N	I	A	I	E	T	O	M	O	R	P	V	
C	I	T	T	S	C	A	P	T	N	I	R	P	I	O
O	L	I	A	D	V	E	R	T	I	S	I	N	G	R
H	E	F	C	P	O	L	I	T	I	C	A	L	B	T
S	W	E	I	V	R	E	T	N	I	O	L	A	N	
S	E	I	L	I	M	A	F	G	N	C	N	E	N	O
K	O	O	B	C	O	N	T	E	N	T	L	S	D	C
S	E	T	U	B	I	R	T	A	C	T	R	E	S	S
E	R	S	P	O	R	T	S	T	O	R	I	E	S	S

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1/12

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Last Friday's Answer: Devour

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Salary: \$1,200.00 - \$1,400.00 per month
Minimum of 5 years' experience.
Must be able to interpret and translate for both Japanese and English.
Interested applicants please send resume to martind28@yahoo.co.jp
No later than January 17th.
JOB MARKET USA CORPORATION

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(1) Maintenance Technician
Rate: \$6.05/hour
Minimum of 3 years work related experience. Preferably someone who knows how to speak Chinese and able to work flexible hours.
Interested applicants, please mail resume with job references to PMB 373 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950.
New Star International Corporation dba Mura Khiban Restaurant

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
1 – PROJECT CIVIL WORKS TECH
Ability to apply the theory and principles of civil engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction. College degree required with (10) years minimum work related experience. Provide technical assistance in the management, supervision, coordination, and execution of engineering and construction duties and maintenance of building structures and facilities including but not limited to buildings, power, plants, detention facilities, roads, drainage, airport buildings and infrastructure. Develop construction drawings, design, and plans and prepare cost estimates. Confer with staff engineer in keeping the project on budget. Inspect project site and evaluate contractor work to detect design malfunctions and ensure conformance to design specifications and applicable codes. Prepare reports and document project activities and data. Computer literate with knowledge in computer aided design (CAD) Software.

Interested qualified applicants must submit a complete application or resume and latest police clearance via e-mail at saipan@aicconstruction.com or mail to AK Marianas, Inc. PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
Closing date: 01/16/2015

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537
ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0495
Plaintiff,	
-v-	
The Estate of GREGORIO VILLAGOMEZ DELEON GUERRERO and JACINTA P. GUERRERO,	
Defendants.	

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 13, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: That certain tract or parcel of real property situated in Fina Sisu, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,

Lot H-164-7 A (part of H-164-7), more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a corner which is design as Corner no. 1, having plane rectangular coordinates of 47,750.80 meters North and 50,896.98 meters East on the Mariana Islands Coordinate System of 1966;

Thence North 02° 42' 45" West, 34.24 meters to corner no. 2;

Thence South 77° 45' 51" East, 28.000 meters to corner no. 3;

Thence South 02° 20' 27" East, 34.72 meters to corner no. 4;

Thence North 76° 44' 18" West, 28.00 meters to corner no. 1;

The point of beginning;

Containing an area of 931 square meters, more or less.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, January 30, 2015, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 31st day of December, 2014:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Baker – Must have at least 5 years work experience. Flexible time schedule. Salary \$6.50/hr.

(1) Assistant Baker – Must have at least 2 years work experience. Flexible time schedule. Salary \$6.05/hr.

Send resume to P.O. Box 501540 or apply at MLF, L.L.C. dba: DanDan Bakery, Tel.: 288-8288

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Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applicants must be submitted not later than January 16, 2015. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537
ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0044
Plaintiff,	
-v-	
HENRY SABLAN HOFSCHEIDER and ELENA BABAUTA HOFSCHEIDER,	
Defendants.	

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on May 9, 2012, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot no. 002 G 72, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 002 G 03 dated May 31, 1989, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 90-1900, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, February 6, 2015, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 5th day of January, 2015:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Warehouse for RENT

REM GUALO RAI
Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft
\$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable

REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 235-6527/28 or 285-1317

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2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
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Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
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Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**
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MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
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TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537
ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0068
Plaintiff,	
-v-	
AUGUSTINA I. KUKKUN,	
Defendant.	

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on August 29, 2014, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot no. 005 I 540, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 1,334 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 2084/82, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document no. 14232, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, February 6, 2015, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 5th day of January, 2015:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff,	Civil Action No. 13-0093
vs.	AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE
ABRAHAM E. TAISACAN and LYDIA O. TAISACAN,	
Defendants.	

AMENDED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 27th day of December, 2013, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 21st day of January, 2015 at 10 a.m., at the Bank of Guam, District II, Songsong Village, Rota, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 001 R 22, (formerly known as Lot 10, Block 19), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 R 00, the original of which was registered on November 12, 1971 as Document No. 1288 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. **Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

- a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
- b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
- c) to reject any and all bids.

2. **Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@ptcicom.com.

3. **Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.

4. **Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 3rd day of December, 2014.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

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Saipan Tribune

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Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Patriots, Seahawks advance, to host title games



SEATTLE (AP)—By holding serve at home, the Seattle Seahawks and New England Patriots get to try again. The next prize: a spot in the Super Bowl.

Defending NFL champion Seattle used a slew of big plays to beat Carolina 31-17 Saturday night in an NFC divisional-round game. The Seahawks (13-4) will host either Green Bay or Dallas next weekend after becoming the first Super Bowl winner in nine years to win a postseason match the next season.

Russell Wilson threw three touchdown passes and Kam Chancellor returned an interception 90 yards for a touchdown. Wilson hit Doug Baldwin for a 16-yard TD, found Jermaine Kearse on a 63-yard score, and capped the night with a 25-yard TD pass to Luke Willson early in the fourth quarter.

"We're just looking for this next challenge, and looking for this NFC championship and we're just ready to go," Chancellor said. "We're ready to get back to practice, get the preparation going and find out who we'll play and just get it going."

The Patriots are making what seems like their annual trip to the AFC championship game. Tom Brady set a career record for post-season touchdown passes, leading New England back from two 14-point deficits for a 35-31 victory over Baltimore on Saturday. The Patriots will host either the Broncos or Colts next weekend for a berth in the Super Bowl.

New England (13-4) is 9-0 this season at Gillette Stadium.

"Showed a lot of toughness



coming back from those two deficits," Brady said. "So it took a lot of effort, took a lot of guys making a lot of good plays, and we'll be happy to host the championship game next week."

Brady broke Joe Montana's record with 46 postseason TD passes.

"I've been part of a lot of great teams and there's been a lot of guys who have blocked and been on the receiving end of those, too. Those are all team

awards to me. I mean, Joe, he and Steve Young were my two idols growing up, so it was pretty special."

Seahawks 31, Panthers 17

While Wilson was superb, Chancellor made the most eye-catching plays. He twice jumped over the Carolina offensive line on Graham Gano's field goal attempts at the end of the first half, although to no avail.

And with Carolina (8-9-1) driving down by 14 points in the fourth quarter, Chancellor jumped in front of tight end Ed Dickson and returned his third career postseason interception for a touchdown. The 90-yarder was the longest touchdown in Seattle's postseason history, topping Percy Harvin's 87-yard kickoff return for a scored in last February's Super Bowl.

"It felt awesome," said the defensive back who normally

is overshadowed by All-Pro Richard Sherman and Earl Thomas. "It felt like preparation. It felt like everything I worked all week for. That was my first return of my career and it felt good."

Patriots 35, Ravens 31

Since Brady took over as New England's quarterback in 2001, the Patriots have been to eight conference title games and five Super Bowls. They won the first three times, the last after the 2004 season, and lost the two most recent tries, both against the New York Giants. This will be their fourth consecutive appearance in the AFC championship.

It was a tough go getting there. They were outrushed 136-14 - Justin Forsett had 129 yards for Baltimore (11-7). Joe Flacco threw for four touchdowns.

But he also was intercepted twice, and New England gained 408 yards passing.

New England's Bill Belichick tied Tom Landry for most post-season wins by a coach with 20.

Brady wasn't the only Patriot throwing for a TD. Wide receiver Julian Edelman, a former college quarterback, hit Danny Amendola with a 51-yard strike to tie it 28-28. Brady's 23-yarder to Brandon LaFell with 5:13 remaining won it.

"Baltimore played a great game," Edelman said. "They came out and hit us in the mouth and we were able to get up and keep playing."

On Sunday, Dallas is at Green Bay, followed by Indianapolis at Denver.

Green Bay lost the season opener at Seattle, but Dallas handed the Seahawks their only

AP
New England Patriots wide receiver Danny Amendola (80) dives into the end zone for a touchdown after catching a 15-yard pass against the Baltimore Ravens in the first half of an NFL divisional playoff football game Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015, in Foxborough, Mass.

loss at CenturyLink field in the regular season.

The Cowboys' first postseason trip to Lambeau Field since losing the Ice Bowl on the final day of 1967 shouldn't be nearly that frigid. Still, it will be cold, and Dallas can take comfort in an 8-0 road record this season.

Of course, the Packers were 8-0 at home.

"So you've got an immovable object going up against an unstoppable force," Packers fullback John Kuhn said. "Which one is going to give? We'll find out."

A key element for Green Bay is the health of Aaron Rodgers (calf), who has been upgraded to probable.

"He looks like he's moving fine to me right now. (We are) not going to change anything or our approach of how we want to attack Dallas' defense," coach Mike McCarthy said.

The Cowboys' high-powered offense is led by league rushing leader DeMarco Murray.

"I feel fresh," said Murray, who has 1,920 yards in 17 games, including the wild-card win over Detroit last week. "I haven't missed time. I'm feeling good."

Both teams lost lopsided games to New England this season.

Another spotless home team, the Broncos are 9-0 when Peyton Manning throws for at least 300 yards. But do they want to get in a shootout with the Colts, whose Andrew Luck - the quarterback who replaced Manning in Indianapolis - led the NFL with 40 touchdown passes?

Denver has become more run-oriented than any Manning team thanks to the emergence of C.J. Anderson.

"I think a year ago, he broke probably every single-season record known to man. It was the style we played and what was best for our team at that point," coach John Fox said of five-time league MVP Manning. "This year, I think we're a little bit different team. We're built different."

"He was a 12-4 quarterback during the regular season, which is I think tied for the best record in football this year."

Interestingly, the Colts, winners over Cincinnati last week, are relying more on Luck than they ever did on Manning. In his time in Indy from 1998-2011, Manning was responsible for 73.3 percent of the Colts' total net yards. During his three seasons there, Luck has accounted for 78 percent, according to STATS.

Oregon's Carrington, Forde benched after positive drug tests

DALLAS (AP)—Oregon was forced to bench two players because of failed drug tests days before the team competes in the first College Football Playoff title game, the latest hit to a roster already depleted by injuries.

Wide receiver Darren Carrington and running back Ayele Forde did not travel with Oregon for Monday's national championship game against Ohio State after each failed NCAA-mandated drug test. Carrington tested positive for marijuana; the results of Forde's test weren't disclosed.

Oregon coach Mark Helfrich insisted Saturday that the team remained focused.

"Unfortunately, we've been tested in the realm of guys not being available for whatever reason all season long," Helfrich said. "And our guys have stepped up."

The loss of Carrington is particularly difficult for the Ducks, who are already short at receiver for Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Marcus Mariota.

The players were tested before the team's Rose Bowl appearance, a person with direct knowledge of the tests told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because of student privacy rules.

The NCAA conducts random drug testing for championship events and bowl games. Those tests can be done before or after an event and the school is given no notice about how many players will be tested.

A failed test for recreational drugs results in the NCAA requiring the school to declare the player ineligible. The penalty for a failed test is 50 percent of a season, which means Carrington could miss up to five games next year. The national championship would have been Forde's last game.

Oregon can appeal the NCAA ruling. But on Saturday, Oregon coaches and players said they were moving forward without Carrington and Forde.

"I think anytime you put something in your body that doesn't belong there it's a bad decision," Oregon offensive coordinator Scott Frost said.

Not having Carrington leaves the Ducks down two key wide receivers against Ohio State. Carrington, a 6-foot-2, 191-pound redshirt freshman, had seven catches for 166 yards and two touchdowns in Oregon's Rose Bowl victory over Florida State.

Mariota said the team was disappointed and that he hadn't talked to Carrington.

"I think a lot of guys feel guilty like they should have helped, including myself," Mariota said. "It's tough."

Last week, Oregon lost redshirt freshman receiver Devon Allen on the opening kickoff with a knee injury. Allen had 41 catches for 684 yards and seven touchdowns.

The Ducks have also been playing for the last four games without star tight end Pharoah



Gasol's career-high 46 lift Bulls vs Bucks



CHICAGO (AP)—Pau Gasol had a career-high 46 points to go along with 18 rebounds as the Chicago Bulls bounced back from two ugly losses with a 95-87 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Saturday.

Gasol was 17 for 30 from the field and 12 for 13 at the line. Kirk Hinrich added 16 points for Chicago, and Jimmy Butler had nine points, 10 assists and eight rebounds in the opener of a three-game homestand.

The Bulls were coming off a pair of bad losses to Utah and Washington, when they shot a combined 36 percent from the field. They weren't much better against Milwaukee, finishing at 40 percent (35 for 88), but Gasol's big performance was enough to hold off the Bucks.

Gasol helped the Bulls close it out in the final period. He had a driving layup that made it 87-75 with 4:01 remaining. He finished with four straight free throws, surpassing his previous career best of 44 points for Memphis against Seattle on March 28, 2006.

The Bulls played without starters Derrick Rose and Mike Dunleavy. Rose, who missed much of the last 2 1/2 seasons due to a series of injuries, was sidelined by left knee soreness, and Dunleavy missed his fifth straight game with a right ankle injury.

Brandon Knight scored 20 points for Milwaukee, which had won its last five road games. Jared Dudley had 15 points, and fellow reserve O.J. Mayo finished with 12.

Hornets 110, Knicks 82

In New York, Kemba Walker scored 28 points as Charlotte extended New York's losing streak to 15 games.

Charlotte won its fifth in a row and did it so easily that Walker played only three quarters.

Walker has played a big role in the five-game winning streak. He had 30 points in a victory over Orlando, 33 against Boston, 31 against New Orleans—when he made the go-ahead basket with 1.4 seconds left—and 29 against Toronto on Thursday night.

The Knicks fell to 5-35 with their 25th loss in 26 games. Quincy Acy led them with 18 points.

Clippers 120, Mavericks 100

In Los Angeles, Blake Griffin scored 22 points, and Chris Paul had 17 points and 13 assists as Los Angeles beat Dallas for its sixth win in eight games and second in a row.

Jamal Crawford added 19 points, Matt Barnes had 18 points, J.J. Redick 16, and DeAndre Jordan had 13 points

and 15 rebounds in the Clippers' eighth win in their last 11 games against the Mavericks.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 25 points and Monta Ellis had 15 of his 23 in the first half for Dallas, which had its three-game road winning streak snapped. Rajon Rondo was held to two points and eight assists in 27 minutes after going scoreless in the first half.

Spurs 108, Timberwolves 93

In Minneapolis, Austin Daye scored a season-high 22 points and had 10 rebounds to help San Antonio hand Minnesota its 15th straight loss.

Patty Mills scored 19 points and Tim Duncan added 13 points and six rebounds in 20 minutes for the Spurs (23-15), who were missing Manu Ginobili and Marco Belinelli with injuries.

Minnesota (5-31) hasn't won since Dec. 10 and is tied with New York for the longest active losing streak in the NBA.

Trail Blazers 103, Magic 92

In Portland, LaMarcus Aldridge scored 25 points as Portland handed Orlando its sixth consecutive loss.

Aldridge hit 10 of 22 shots to help the Blazers (29-8) tie Golden State for most wins in the NBA this season. Wesley Matthews added 18 points.

Orlando's Nikola Vucevic scored a career-high 34 points and grabbed 16 rebounds. Victor Oladipo had 18 points and eight rebounds.

76ers 93, Pacers 92

In Philadelphia, Michael Carter-Williams hit a running layup with 9.2 seconds left to lift Philadelphia past Indiana.

Tony Wroten had 20 points to lead Philadelphia, which won consecutive games for just the second time this season and earned its third victory in the last four. The 76ers are 7-13 since opening 0-17.

David West had 28 points for the Pacers, but came up short on a 13-footer at the buzzer that would've won it for Indiana.

Pistons 98, Nets 93

In Auburn Hills, Brandon Jennings scored all 20 of his points in the second half to help Detroit beat Brooklyn.

Greg Monroe added 16 points and 17 rebounds for Detroit. The Pistons have won eight of nine since releasing Josh Smith.

Joe Johnson led Brooklyn with 17 points. Brook Lopez had 11 points and 15 rebounds.

Raptors 109, Celtics 96

In Toronto Kyle Lowry scored 10 of his 19 points in the fourth quarter, and James Johnson had



15 points and 10 rebounds as Toronto beat Boston to end a four-game losing streak.

Lou Williams scored 19 points and Jonas Valanciunas and Amir Johnson each had 15 to help the Raptors improve to 6-0 against Atlantic Division opponents and avoid losing consecutive home games for the first time since March 2014. Toronto is 15-4 at home this season.

Kelly Olynyk scored 23 points for Boston.

Rockets 97, Jazz 82

In Houston, James Harden had 30 points and five assists as Houston beat Utah for its third straight victory.

Harden made four of Houston's 13 3-pointers, including two in the fourth quarter. Houston used 16 steals and forced 31 turnovers to overcome poor first-half shooting.

Trey Burke and Enes Kanter each scored 16 points for Utah.

Chicago Bulls' Pau Gasol (16) goes up to shoot against Milwaukee Bucks' John Henson (31) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Chicago, Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015.

SIDEBAR

3 teams in five-player trade

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—The Memphis Grizzlies, Boston Celtics and New Orleans Pelicans have agreed on a five-player trade that would send forward Jeff Green from Boston to Memphis, a person familiar with the situation said Saturday.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the trade hasn't been announced and formal approval by the NBA is not expected until Monday morning.

Forward Tayshaun Prince would go from Memphis to Boston and forward Quincy Pondexter from Memphis to New Orleans.

The trade also would send guard Austin Rivers, the 10th overall pick in 2012, from New Orleans to Boston, and 2014 second-round pick Russ Smith, a point guard, from New Orleans to Memphis. Memphis also will send a protected first-round draft choice to Boston and a second-rounder to New Orleans.

The trade is expected to provide more offense for Memphis, which is in a tight race for the Southwest Division lead. The Grizzlies (25-11) were leading the division until losing at New Orleans on Friday night, marking Memphis' sixth

loss in 10 games.

Green is averaging a team-high 17.6 points for Boston, but the Celtics (12-23) are rebuilding. The Grizzlies are firmly in the Western Conference playoff picture and narrowly behind Dallas for the lead in their division.

Pondexter started his career in New Orleans, which acquired him in a trade with Oklahoma City during the first-round of the 2010 draft.

The following season, however, New Orleans needed an experienced point guard after a trade that sent All-Star Chris Paul to the Los Angeles Clippers, so Pondexter was dealt to Memphis in exchange for Greivis Vasquez, who now plays for Toronto.

This season, however, the Pelicans had a glut at guard and have been thin at small forward, rotating several players into the starting lineup at that spot this season, including Tyreke Evans, whose more natural position is at guard. Dante Cunningham, who was signed in December, started at small forward against Memphis on Friday.

Now the 6-foot-7 Pondexter returns to a team where he is expected to either start or at least be in the regular rotation with Cunningham.

Johnson part of 4-way tie for lead at Kapalua



KAPALUA, Hawaii (AP)—The first PGA Tour event of the year in Hawaii hardly resembles a working vacation.

Zach Johnson putted for birdie on every hole, the fifth time in his career that he didn't miss a green in regulation. Jimmy Walker got in the mix with five birdies in eight holes. Russell Henley and Bae Sang-Moon held their own on another gorgeous day at the Hyundai Tournament of Champions.

They were part of a four-way tie for the lead Saturday, the largest log jam at the 36-hole mark in the 17 years this winners-only event has been played at Kapalua.

Geoff Ogilvy wasn't part of the mix, though he might have seen this coming when he spoke earlier in the week about the first PGA Tour event of the year.

"There's a little bit of rust going on, less than there used to be," Ogilvy said. "I think in

the good old days ... they hadn't hit a shot in a few months and they'd show up and shank their first three shots on the range. They would just cruise into the year, basically. I think that happens a lot less these days."

There's not much evidence of it now.

Along with that four-way tie for the lead, 10 players were within two shots of the lead going into the third round, and half of the 34-man field within five shots.

Johnson gets the most attention as the defending champion, hopeful of joining the Aussie duo of Ogilvy and Stuart Appleby as the only back-to-back winners at Kapalua (Appleby won three in a row). He made seven birdies in his round of 6-under 67 and was the first to reach 11-under 135.

Walker, a winner last year on Oahu, was the only player to reach 12 under until confusion over the wind and a little indecision cost him a three-putt bogey on the 17th. He wound

up with a 68. Henley recovered from a sluggish start for a 70, while Bae played bogey-free and birdie-free over the last eight holes for a 69.

"I think it's so competitive," Henley said. "I think the way guys look at it now, it's a great opportunity to have a good finish and get off to a great start, if not win."

Johnson got off to a great start last year when he won, his only victory of 2014.

His only bogey on another benign day above the blue Pacific was a three-putt on the eighth hole. He birdied all the par 5s, though the last one required a little more work. Johnson popped up his drive, which still went 294 yards because of the 150-foot drop from the tee to the fairway. He had to pound a 3-wood to get beyond the neck of the fairway, and then he flew his third shot beyond the flag.

Shots like that used to roll off the back of the green. In soft conditions, this one

stayed, and Johnson made a 15-foot birdie putt.

"I had a full shot," Johnson said. "At the same time, usually you've got to play 15 yards from the hole. That's strange and rare, but that's the way it is. We played a little early today. The ball just didn't release. You have to pay attention there. As we get more wind the next couple days, I think this place will dry out."

Walker completed a two-putt birdie on the par-5 15th by making a 6-footer into the grain to take the lead. He hammered his tee shot on the downhill 17th and, adjusting for the drop in elevation over the gorge in front of the 17th green, he figured it was an 8-iron from 170 yards.

The uncertainty was the wind, and not totally convinced of his club selection, he hit chunky and barely got onto the green. He three-putted from 70 feet for his only bogey, and then failed to birdie the 18th.

Mayweather, Pacquiao fight making progress



The long wait for Floyd Mayweather Jr. vs. Manny Pacquiao isn't over yet, but words long absent from the anticipated super-fight have been spoken.

"We're making progress," a boxing authority involved in the talks told the Los Angeles Times on Friday.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because no one in the Mayweather-Pacquiao talks is authorized to discuss them publicly.

Boxing's top two pound-for-pound fighters have failed to make a deal for more than five years, but after Mayweather (47-0) dominated Marcos Maidana in September, he was more encouraging than ever about the bout, and Pacquiao said the mega-bout "has to happen" after knocking down previously unbeaten Chris Algieri six times in November.

While a final agreement has not been struck on the purse split, the official said the sides made noticeable progress on the subject in Thursday negotiations.

Mayweather sought a split at least 60-40 in his favor, and Pacquiao (57-5-2, 38 KOs) expressed a willingness to meet that.

The parties have already agreed to stage the fight at MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, and they've also agreed on a drug-testing plan. A date remains unsettled. It's believed the bout is being targeted for May or June.

"The calendar is a factor," the official said of the urgency to finalize the deal soon, estimating it could get done in seven to 10 days.

A disagreement over drug testing ruined attempts to make



the fight in 2010, when a full term sheet had already been finalized.

Then, Maywewather wanted the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency to conduct full testing, including blood screens, and Pacquiao declined.

The specifics of the drug-testing deal this time were not revealed.

As the sides continue to work on the purse split, premium cable networks Showtime and HBO also need to work out the details of televising the bout. Mayweather is under contract to Showtime for two more fights, and Pacquiao has an HBO deal.

It's believed the networks are pursuing a plan to televise the bout jointly, as was done with the 2002 heavyweight title fight between Lennox Lewis and Mike Tyson.



Tinian Turquoise Blue Triathlon scheduled for Feb. 14

It's the perfect Valentine's Day weekend getaway, a romantic vacation on Tinian for the 15th Annual Tinian Turquoise Blue Triathlon and Reef Swim and the 11th Tinian Hot Pepper Festival.

The triathlon on Feb. 14 will feature a 1.5K swim, 40K bike, and 10Krun, while the reef swim will offer three courses: 1.5K 3K, and 4.5K. There is no time limit for the races, offering all competitors the opportunity to enjoy the satisfaction of completing the event. The festival will be held on Feb. 14-15.

"Feb. 14-15 is a 3-day weekend with Valentine's Day on Saturday and President's Day on Monday," pointed out Mari-

anas Visitors Authority (MVA) community projects Manager Martin Duenas. "That's great timing for a memorable weekend of recreation and relaxation on Tinian."

The Tinian Turquoise Blue Triathlon and Reef Swim is co-sponsored by the MVA, KFC Triathlon Club of Japan, Tinian Mayor's Office, and the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

Registration costs are: \$80

for solo triathletes, \$60/member for triathlon teams of two or three members, and \$60 for reef swim only (all distances). Registration fee includes the awards party on event day, a commemorative t-shirt, and swim cap. Registration will be held at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino poolside on Feb. 13 from 6-7 p.m., with the mandatory pre-race briefing from 6:30-7pm at the same venue. Cash payment only. Registra-

tion forms and course maps are downloadable under the event date at the calendar of events at www.mymarianas.com.

The awards banquet will be held on Feb. 14 at 6pm at Kammer Beach.

For more information or to register, contact Vida Borja at vborja@mymarianas.com or call 1-670-433-9365 or Ryan Calvo at rcalvo@mymarianas.com or 1-670-664-3210. (MVA)

ARMATECH

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it came after it fell to Shirley's Coffee Shop last Tuesday and IT&E last Friday. Sun Palace remained winless in six games.

Fiesta took an early double-digit lead, 23-10, and never looked back from thereon.

First Game

Fiesta Resort 43—Francisco 12, Pena 8, Lee 6, Muna 5, Bergosa 4, Garon 3, Reyes 3, Valino 2.

Sun Palace 20—Francisco 8, Avelino 4, Abadilla 4, Castro 2, Olivos 2.

Scoring by halves: 23-10, 43-20.

Second Game

Armotech 58—Pagarao 21, Castillo 14, Alipio 13, Palero 6, Fleming 4.

IT&E 44—Alegre 10, Sablan 7, Reyes 7, Ito 7, Lopez 6, Manibusan 3, Deleon Guerrero 2.

Scoring by halves: 24-26, 58-44.

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government Basketball League finals last month.

Camacho scored 4 of NMSA's last 9 points in the final period, including a pair of free throws that knotted the count at 68 and forced the 5-minute extension.

The Feds still had the chance to win in regulation, but Camacho stole the ball away from Hae Joon Park.

Diana Camacho, on the other hand, dominated the SBA-Budweiser Queen of the Lanes, ending up as the top seed and needed only one game in beating Yho Villavicencio in the finale, (158-137) to clinch her fourth crown and first since 2012. She also topped seven of the 12 monthly roll-offs (January,

April, June and July, September, November, and December).

Saipan International School's Miyawawaki tallied 14 goals in seven of their team's nine games to win the 2014 NMIFA Boys U12 Interscholastic Football League's Golden Boot award. He had a hat trick twice in the preliminaries and scored both goals in the Geckos' 2-1 win over William S. Reyes in the finals.

Tan, who is also from SIS, ruled the girls U14 division of the 2014 Tan Holdings Tennis Classic, winning the singles crown and then teaming up with Julia Ishikawa in claiming the doubles tiara. She also topped the women's 4.0 singles, making her the top U14 netter on the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association's junior rankings.

MISO

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tinued to experience opening game jitters with the Knights still without a point midway in the match and the score at 1-0. A Jethro Cruz 3-pointer made it 4-0, 4:29 left in the first quarter.

William Camacho's running jumper ended MCS' scoring drought with 4:04 to go in the opening period. The quarter wrapped up with SSHS slightly ahead, 9-6.

The Mantas started pulling away in the second quarter with the Knights' errors and miserable shooting on the floor helping their cause.

Saipan Southern just played tough defense the entire match and had an answer in every

MCS comeback attempt.

Emerson Feria led the Mantas with 13 points, while James Kintaro and Tyler Palacios added 12 and 10 markers, respectively. Roquero, Chico Bondoc, Joseph Taitano and Edilberto Javier combined for 25 more.

Markel Toves tallied 15 for the Knights with Camacho and Zander Tekel contributing 10 apiece.

In the first game, MHS held SSHS 9 to a season-low 3 points in the first quarter and was never threatened after that.

Warren Ellama led MHS JV with 14 points, while Dalton Dancoc chipped in 11 for the Dolphins, who even enjoyed a 24-point spread entering the final canto.

N-Nes Siech was the lone SSHS 9 to earn double digits with 14. Only five of his team-

mates managed to score in the entire game.

The SIS Geckos, meanwhile, banked on Jehn Joyner's game-high 21 markers in waltzing past the MBA Stormz.

Hwang Ho Kim, and brothers Christopher and Allen Cepeda combined for 20 points to provide scoring support to Joyner.

Ki Boon Song tallied 9, Julian Manglona had 6, while Young Jin Jung and Harim Kim ended up with 4 apiece for MBA.

First Game

MHS JV 52—Ellama 14, Dancoc 11, Castillo 5, Cenir 4, Deocares 4, Diaz 4, Cristobal 3, Abono 2, Bucayo 2, Floresca 1.

SSHS 9 33—Siech 14, Mala-sarte 5, Alipio 4, Bondoc 4, Cobacha 4, Ejercito 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-3, 31-12, 47-23, 52-33.

Second Game

SIS 48—Joyner 21, HH Kim 9, C. Cepeda 6, A. Cepeda 5, Jang 2, YK Kim 2, Yoon 2, Smith 1.

MBA 23—Song 9, Manglona 6, Jung 4, Kim 4.

Scoring by quarters: 15-8, 26-13, 39-19, 48-23.

Third Game

SSHS 68—Feria 13, Kintaro 12, Palacios 10, Bondoc 8, Roquero 8, Taitano 5, Javier 4, Cruz 3, Flores 3, Esmundo 2.

MCS 54—Toves 15, Camacho 10, Tkel 10, Kim 5, Hahn 4, Son 4, Deleon Guerrero 3, Lee 2, Santos 1.

Scoring by quarters: 9-6, 32-19, 46-34, 68-54.

Shutout wins for Real Crispy Pata, Astig Futsal

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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SAIPAN SOCCER SCHOOL
Real Crispy Pata and Astig Futsal eased their way to victories anew in the 2014 SSS Christmas Youth Futsal Tournament.

Real Crispy Pata whipped the Orange Rangers last Saturday, 11-0, at the TSL Sports Complex, while Astig Futsal crushed Matansa Sparks last Friday, 8-0. With their separate wins, Real Crispy Pata and Astig Futsal remained tied for the lead in the boys U15 division of the four-team field. They held identical 4-1-0 win-draw-loss record, pending results of their duel last night in the final day of the elimination round.

Regardless of the results of the co-leaders' collision last Sunday and the other U15 division match between Matansa (1-4) and Orange Rangers (0-5), Astig Futsal and Real Crispy

Pata are also in the finals, which will be played this Saturday.

Realty Crispy Pata won its penultimate game in the double-round robin elimination after showing no mercy against the much younger and smaller Orange Rangers' crew. Edwin Kim led Realty Crispy Pata's demolition of the Orange Rangers with his hat-trick. He was one of the five scorers for Realty Crispy Pata in the first half, making one, while Bada Lee drilled two, and Cody Leon, Joshua Abragan, and Christopher Anzino chipped in one each.

Kim added two more in the second frame, while Leon and Abragan still scored in the final 20 minutes of play and Sun Joon Tenorio, who started the last half of the match as a goalie managed to score late in the match.

In the other boys U15 tiff, Astig Futsal also drew goals from six different players to dominate the Matansa Blazers.

Mareko Tekopua and Carlson Crusat fired two goals apiece, while Hark Joshia Galarion, James Ermitanio, Anthony Fruit, and Junsik Kim contributed one each.

In other results over the weekend, Team Betde evened things up with finals rival the Lil' Rascals after eking out a 9-8 win last Friday. The Lil' Rascal won their first meeting last month, 6-4.

With the win and coupled by the Team Betde's draw against Sisig United last Saturday, 7-7, the former took the temporary lead in the co-ed U12 division, pending results of last night's match between the Lil' Rascals and Orange Rangers.

Team Betde finished the elimination round with a 4-1-1 slate, while the Lil' Rascal held a 3-1-1 mark and Sisig United and Orange Rangers had 2-1-3 and 0-0-5 cards, respectively. The Top 2 teams after the elimination round will vie for the di-

vision crown this Saturday.

Team Betde notched the morale-boosting win heading into this weekend's finale after an explosive start in their second meeting with the Lil' Rascals. Team Betde scored eight goals in the first half with three each coming from Thaiphi Austria and John Michael Rojas to double up the Lil' Rascals, 8-4. Kohtaro Goto and John Ezekiel Canape added one apiece, while Mark Esalan led the Lil' Rascals, recording the team's four goals.

Esalan kept going for the Lil' Rascals in the second half, registering three more goals, while Go Sekiguchi also hit the board in the final frame to threaten Team Betde. However, Austria scored the needed one goal to keep the win for Team Betde.

Against Sisig United, Austria also led Team Betde with his four goals, while Rojas backed him up with a brace, while Goto

logged the other goal. Rintaro Miyawaki matched Austria's

output, while Eun Syu Hahn chipped in three.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An Orange Rangers player, left, wards off Real Crispy Pata's Joshua Abragan as they chase the ball down the sideline during their boys U15 division game in the 2014 SSS Christmas Youth Futsal Tournament last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

SBA honors winners of season-ending tournament

By **JON PEREZ**
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The Saipan Billiards Association honored the best teams and players of the Thursday and Tuesday 8-Ball leagues of the 2014 summer-fall season in yesterday's award ceremony at the Pacific Islands Club-Saipan's Charley's Cabaret.

Chesther Cuento and Rey Pinangay led the list of individual winners as they topped the run-the-rack event in the Thursday and Tuesday leagues, respectively. Cuento had three run-the-rack, while Pinangay

had a league-best 7.

Erwin Villagomez, James Villacruz, Senen Pangilinan, and Oscar Sablan were the best four cue artists in the 8-Ball on break, while Mark Butac, Rowel Mariano and Robert Sanciango duplicated their feat in the Tuesday league.

Nong Detdon and Nolan Cultura were the top performers in the Thursday and Tuesday leagues, while Rodel Dela Cruz was the Thursday league most valuable player, and Juancho Mendoza and Marc Brian Nelvis ended up tied for the MVP award in the Tuesday league.

Jerry Soriano and Brian Nelves were the Thursday and

Tuesday leagues' Finals MVPs, while Jonny's Team SCS and Smoke Pub Sang&D'Gang were the recipients of the sportsmanship awards as they got the most votes from the captains of the participating squads.

Soriano together with team captain Rowel Mariano and compatriots Senen Pangilinan, Simeon Kapileo, Robert Sanciango, Oscar Sablan, and Perry C. Inos showed Route33 Armatech is the team to beat next season, as they conspired in leading the Hustlers to the regular season Thursday league title and Budweiser Cup.

Rolly Villanueva, Roma Rodriguez, R.J. Mascarinas,

Mark Butac, Marc Brian Nelvis, Joshua Woodson and Minerva Nelvis duplicated the feat in powering the Jokers IT&E Voyagers to the regular season Tuesday league crown and the Budweiser Cup.

Chesther Cuento, Rodel Dela Cruz, Rick Elefante, Rico Montano, Noel Jimenez, Primo Jebehn and Rey Hermogenes led Smoke Pub Magic 8 Ball to a runner-up finish in the Thursday league, while Mariano, Soriano, Pangilinan, Sanciango, Joey Lucido, and Erwin Gomez matched the feat in the Tuesday league.

The Jokers-backed Homeboyz, composed of Lucido, Villanueva, George Lizardo, Nolan Cultura, Joseph Achas, Jeff Garcia, Joshua Woodson and Cesar Sangalang, and Str8 Shooters of Cuento, Cultura, and Montano, finished third in the Thursday and Tuesday leagues, respectively.

Meanwhile, league secretary Warlee Ellama thanked all the players who joined the tournament, their sponsors for supporting the teams, and chief backer Budweiser.

Marianas Pacific Distributor Inc. marketing manager James Lee also expressed gratitude to the supporters of each team and is looking forward for another great year of billiards action.

"MARPAAC will be here to support the league. And we're looking forward to another great year for billiards this 2015," said Lee.

In related news, league organizers held a blind draw tournament after the awards ceremony at Smoke Pub Bar in Garapan yesterday, but results were unavailable at presstime.

The captains meeting for next season coincided with the tournament and Ellama said players should start forming their teams and register online at pacificamusement.com.



JON PEREZ

Route33 Armatech Hustlers players and supporters pose with their Thursday league championship and Budweiser Cup trophies during the awards ceremony for the 2014 Saipan Billiards Association 8-Ball League yesterday at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club.



JON PEREZ

Jokers IT&E Voyagers players and supporters pose with their Tuesday league championship and Budweiser Cup trophies during the awards ceremony for the 2014 Saipan Billiards Association 8-Ball League yesterday at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club.

MHS sweeps opening games in MISO girls volleyball league

By **JON PEREZ**
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Marianas High School's varsity squad swept its first two games to kick off its title retention bid in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Volleyball League on a high note last Thursday at the MHS Gymnasium.

The Lady Dolphins dethroned 2013 champion Grace Christian Academy Lady Eagles in last year's title showdown, 24-26, 25-20, 18-16.

MHS continued its mastery over GCA with the Lady Dolphins winning all three sets against the Lady Eagles in an early rematch of last year's finale, 25-18, 25-12, 15-13.

The Lady Dolphins then showed no signs of fatigue as an hour later they handed the Mt. Carmel School Lady Knights a 25-17, 25-13, 15-9 thrashing.

The setback prevented Mt. Carmel's varsity side to follow up its masterful 25-14, 25-12, 15-5 win over Kagman High School earlier in the day.

MHS' junior varsity squad also debuted with a triumph against its counterpart at Saipan Southern High School, 25-23, 25-4, 10-15.

In other games, Saipan International School's JV and

varsity teams defeated their respective foes.

The Geckos' JV side dealt Kagman's JV squad a 25-23, 28-16, 3-15 beating while their varsity team pulled off a 25-17, 25-10, 12-15 decision against Saipan Southern's varsity squad.

Meanwhile, action continues tomorrow with the junior varsity squads of MCS and SSHS, and MHS and SIS facing off in the 4:15pm opening matches at the south and north courts.

It will be an all varsity show in the 5:15pm and 6pm games with GCA taking on SSHS at the north court and SIS battling KHS at the south side. The final matches will be against SSHS and MCS at the south court while MHS faces Kagman in the other side.

Organizers are reminding all players to remove their jewelry and accessories before stepping inside the court and at the same time advised athletes to avoid chewing gum, while playing.

Also, teams that are warming up must try their best not to interrupt an ongoing match at the other court and if their ball accidentally rolls into the other court they should immediately shout at the umpire to halt the game.

Fans are also advised to be courteous and not to loiter around the serving areas.



Patriots, Seahawks advance, to host title games
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Shutout wins for Real Crispy Pata, Astig Futsal
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

5 named December's best



MANACOP



TAN



P. CAMACHO



D. CAMACHO



MIYAWAKI

Routs highlight Day 2 of MISO boys caging

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



Routs were the order of the day in Friday's 2014 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Boys Basketball League games as Saipan Southern High School, Marianas High School's junior varsity team and Saipan International School all scored lopsided wins at the MHS Gymnasium.

SSHS' varsity squad used a balanced scoring en route

to a 68-54 decision against Mt. Carmel School, MHS JV cruised to a 52-33 victory against SSHS 9, while SIS leaned on a second-half scoring splurge in posting a 48-23 win over Marianas Baptist Academy.

Southern and MCS played in the last game and went scoreless for almost two minutes before Jerwin Roquero's split free throws broke the ice and put the Manta Rays on the board.

The opposing teams con-

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JON PEREZ

Saipan Southern High School's Joseph Taitano, center, tries to go for a layup against the defense of Mt. Carmel School's William Camacho, left, and his teammate in their game in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Boys Basketball League last Friday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Veteran bowler Simon Manacop and long-time cager Peter Camacho were named the Northern Marianas Sports Association's Male co-Athletes of the Month for December, while three others also made the last set of monthly winners for 2014.

Diana Camacho, Manacop's fellow pinbuster, was the top female athlete, while soccer's Rintaro Miyawaki and tennis' Tania Tan earned the Tan Siu Lin Foundation/NMSA Male

and Female Student Athletes of the Month awards.

Manacop, despite finishing third after the 9-game roll-off, overcame all the odds stacked against him to rule the 2014

Saipan Bowling Association-Budweiser King of the Lanes. He defeated No. 2 Raymond Angeles, 182-163, in the step-ladder semifinals to spoil an all-Raymond finale after defending champion Raymond Zapanta clinched the top seeding and the twice-to-beat edge in the finals. Zapanta won the 2013 finals, denying Manacop a three-peat after the latter topped the King of the Lanes in 2011 and 2012.

The police officer, the only CNMI bowler to qualify in the Masters event of the 28th Asian

Intercity Bowling Championships held last November in San Juan City, Philippines, was never threatened by Zapanta's twice-to-beat edge. Manacop beat Zapanta, who only needed one game to complete his back-to-back title bid, but faltered, twice—210-132 and 207-194 for a 417-326 final tally.

Peter Camacho, meanwhile, was instrumental in helping NMSA squeeze out a 79-75 overtime win over the Feds in the 2014 IT&E-DYS Inter-

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Armatech still flawless

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Armatech remained unbeaten in the 2014 Tan Holdings Basketball Classic, as it started the second round of the elimination with a 58-44 victory against IT&E in their women's division game last Saturday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Armatech bagged its sixth win in as many games to fortify its hold to the top spot in the six-team division, while IT&E had its four-game winning streak snapped as the squad dropped to a 4-3 record.

A strong finish helped Armatech put an end to IT&E's winning run, as the former turned on the heat near the midway part of the second half en route to the 14-point victory. After the opposing teams tied for the last time at 32-all, 13:34 left on the clock, Armatech went on a 14-3 spurt to open a double-digit spread, 46-35, with 7:46 remaining in the match.

Jeralyn Castillo and Chevy Kate Alipio teamed up in the breakaway, scoring 5 points each. Irish Pagarao and Joana Palero added 2 points each, as

Armatech gained full control of the match after falling behind in the first half, 24-26, and facing a 5-point deficit early in the second half.

A Chech Sablan triple from the right key brought Armatech's lead down to single digit, 46-38, but she failed to spark IT&E's rally and instead Armatech went on a short 6-0 run to take the game away for good.

Pagarao top-scored for Armatech with her 21 points, while Castillo and Alipio also finished in twin digits with their 14 and 13 markers respective.

Madeleine Alegre had 10 points and was the lone double figure scorer for IT&E, which missed the services of the sweet-shooting Jan Travilla. Sablan, Karlene Reyes, and Kyle Ito chipped in 7 apiece.

Meanwhile, Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan recovered from back-to-back losses with a 43-20 rout of Sun Palace.

Jahnelle Francisco had 12 points in Fiesta's victory, the team's fourth in eight games and

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Armatech's Chevy Kate Alipio pulls up for an off-balance shot against IT&E Tawnie Manibusan, left, and Chech Sablan's right, during their game in the women's division of the 2014 Tan Holdings Basketball last Saturday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.